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THE JERUSALEM POST

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Likud may stall pact on Taba

Post Diplomatic Correspondent
Only political considerations could prevent the approval of the Taba arbitration-normalization of relations package, a senior official in the Prime Minister's Office said yesterday.

The inner cabinet is to debate the agreement today. Likud ministers continued to indicate that the package would not pass easily or quickly. But Labour ministers remained confident that it would be approved.

Prime Minister Peres declared yesterday that he would recommend dissolving the government if the inner cabinet rejected the Taba agreement.

Minister without Portfolio Ezer Weizman said on Israel TV that he would recommend that Peres break up the government if the agreement is not approved by tomorrow.

He implied that the only reason the Likud would reject the agreement would be for political reasons.

Foreign Minister Shamir's spokesman reiterated that Shamir believes that the inner cabinet should not "rush things," and that the ministers should "carefully examine" the agreement.

They added that there are normalization issues about which Israel is not yet satisfied, including the question of compensation for the families of the victims in the 1985 Ras Burka massacre.

If the package wins approval, the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, Avraham Tamir, said he expects to fly to Cairo immediately to set up a meeting in Cairo between Peres and President Mubarak, probably for later this month.

Arens interview, Page 2.

Tamir said he believes that the official signing of the *compromis*, the agreed document outlining the terms of the international arbitration on the disputed border area, would also be at the end of the month with the summit occurring either before or afterwards.

Meanwhile military experts, headed by Farouk Labib for Egypt and Oren Shahor of the Defence Ministry, U.S. officials and officers of the Multi-National Force officers, and observers in Sinai worked out in Herzliya the logistics of the Taba mapping, which will include aerial photography by MFO helicopters and a U.S. camera-man.

The map is needed to display the conflicting border claims.

Another group, made up of legal experts including Foreign Ministry legal adviser Robbie Sabel and his Egyptian counterpart, Nabil al Arabi, spent the day trying to select arbitrators from a list of about 30 candidates suggested by the U.S. No progress was made, according to reports.

Big cuts in water supply set

By MENACHEM SHALEV

Water supplies to 17 cities, including Haifa, will be reduced by 20 per cent as of Friday, according to the head of the Mekorot water company.

"If we don't get above-average rainfall this year, we will have no cotton fields, no vegetables and no fruit," Yehezkel Zakai told *The Jerusalem Post* last night.

Zakai said that instead of complying with government orders to cut consumption by 10 per cent, the 17 cities had actually increased water use by 10 per cent over the last year.

Zakai sharply criticized municipalities and local councils for giving citizens a bad example. "I have yet to see the municipal garden or public building that uses less water," he said.

Zakai added that he doubted whether enough funds would be raised to build a pipeline to divert 100 million cubic metres of sewage water from the central area to the Negev, thus conserving water which is now pumped from the ground.

Israel pumps 1.6 billion cubic metres of water each year. Water experts have repeatedly warned that at least 300 million cubic metres should be cut from annual consumption to prevent a catastrophe.



A mourner dressed in sackcloth joins thousands of Jerusalem residents in a funeral procession for the Tora scroll that was destroyed last week by vandals at a Givat Shaul synagogue. The torn parchment was placed in special clay pitchers and carried beneath a canopy to the Har Hamenuhot cemetery where it was buried. Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliahu and Avraham Shapira and Orthodox Knesset members attended. Jerusalem Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Kallit said that the desecration of holy objects related to the recent increase in road accidents, and called for the public to increase prayer and Tora study. (Another synagogue vandalized, see p. 2) (Brian Hendler)

3 dead, 13 wounded

Shi'ites duel with Unifil in Lebanon

Jerusalem Post Staff and agencies

Three Shi'ite militiamen were killed and, at least 13 French Unifil soldiers wounded yesterday in the biggest clash yet between Moslem fighters and the South Lebanon peacekeeping force.

The fighting began when Amal fighters besieged French Unifil positions in retaliation for the death of two Amal officers last Monday night, U.N. and Lebanese security sources said.

Amal officers Haidar Ali Khalil and Hassan Duhaini were killed at a Unifil checkpoint east of Tyre after French soldiers fired at their car, apparently because the Amal men had refused to allow it to be searched.

Amal fighters hit the checkpoint guard post and the French Unifil headquarters in Marakeh with rocket-propelled grenades and automatic weapons fire for 16 hours.

Defence Minister Rabin said last night on Israel Radio that there had been "contact among Unifil, the IDF and the South Lebanese Army," regarding the incident. "But this is a problem between Amal and Unifil, and I would prefer at this stage to wait until the incident is completely over and see what the results are," Rabin added.

Other IDF sources said they thought the incident would make it more difficult for Unifil to carry out its role.

The fighting stopped at about 2 p.m. after the intervention of Amal leader Nabih Berri. Unifil spokesman Timor Goksel told *The Jerusalem Post*.

An Amal spokesman meanwhile blamed "elements working within the French contingent for the Moslems," for the killing, and asked for an inquiry.

Goksel said that one of the Amal dead was the militia's commander in Marakeh. One seriously wounded French sergeant was brought to Haifa's Rambam hospital, while 11 other French soldiers are being treated at Unifil's hospital in Nakoura. Another three or four lightly hurt French soldiers were treated at their base.

At daybreak yesterday attacks



A badly wounded French soldier lies bleeding yesterday at Unifil headquarters in South Lebanon after a clash with Amal. (AFP telephoto)

were launched on three French positions and three more soldiers were wounded. Between 10 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. the Amal fighters shifted their attacks eastwards to the vicinity of Marakeh, where one French position was badly hit.

Throughout the morning the UN used liaisons with the Lebanese Army to send messages to the Amal leadership in Beirut and local Amal commanders, requesting them to order their men to cease fire. Berri, who was in Damascus, finally issued a cease-fire order, and shortly after 2 p.m. the firing stopped.

The 1,399-strong French contingent forms almost one fourth of the 5,600-man Unifil force. The French government has served notice, however, it would soon withdraw its logistics battalion, and Sweden is expected to contribute replacements.



Jerusalem's Greek Orthodox Patriarch Diodoros I (right) consecrates Russian Orthodox Father Georgi Ponomarev as Archimandrite Pavel, making the 34-year-old priest the leader of the Kremlin-supported "Red" church in Israel. The ceremony was held yesterday in a church building in the capital's Russian compound. (Gustavo Feinblatt)

Sri Lankan 'boat people' set adrift off Canada

ST. JOHN'S, Canada (AFP). - A group of 152 Sri Lankan refugees, ranging in age from 2 to 70, arrived in this Newfoundland port yesterday, starved and chilled, after having been stranded on lifeboats miles off shore, immigration officials said here.

One of the refugees told officials that the boat passengers had paid the equivalent of \$2,200 each to an Indian agency to take them to Canada or the U.S.

But the refugees were set to sea as their ship neared Canada. The unidentified ship was operated by a crew which the refugee said was either Chinese or Korean.

They had been given scant supplies of food and drinking water and no instructions as to how to reach shore. Three fishing boats spotted the unmarked lifeboats on Monday.

Eight men aboard the rafts had to be hospitalized after a Coast Guard boat took all the refugees to shore, but none was in serious condition, said the local head of the Immigration Services. The group included four women and five children.

Speaking through an interpreter, the refugee said they had boarded a ship in India about a month ago, hoping to escape the violence of strife-torn Sri Lanka.

More witnesses sought in Demjanjuk case

Jerusalem Post Reporter

An Israeli police investigator is in Europe trying to secure depositions identifying suspected Nazi war criminal John Demjanjuk as "Ivan the Terrible," a senior prosecutor told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

The source said prosecutors and the police are hoping to get eyewitness testimony incriminating Demjanjuk in war crimes at the Treblinka death camp.

Meanwhile, State Attorney Yoona Blattman told Justice Minister Avraham Shafir yesterday that charges would not be brought against Demjanjuk within the next two weeks - when Demjanjuk's three-month remand period expires.

Blattman's statement contrasts with Police Inspector-General David Kraus's repeated claims that the police have finished their probe and that charges against Demjanjuk would be filed by the end of this month.

According to Kraus, police have "no problems" in identifying Demjanjuk with "Ivan Gromy" of Treblinka, where 900,000 men, women and children were gassed.

So far, Shaul Villenberg of Jerusalem and Tadeusz Bednarczyk of



John Demjanjuk (Israel Sun)

Warsaw have agreed to testify against the 66-year-old Demjanjuk.

Testimony from five eyewitnesses in Demjanjuk's U.S. denaturalization trial between 1981-1984 will add to the prosecution's case it has been learned.

Demjanjuk, who was extradited last February 28 from the U.S., was remanded for three months in May.

Sharon raps Peres' moves

Jerusalem Post Staff

Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon last night attacked Prime Minister Peres and Labour, saying that the decision to return Area 9 to Arab control was a "political act."

Sharon, quoted on Israel Radio, said that the Peres-Hassan summit in Morocco last month was "not honourable," though in general he supported meetings with Arab leaders.

Sharon added that his criticism of Peres several months ago - which almost resulted in his dismissal and in a Likud-Labour cabinet crisis - had been "correct" though he may have spoken "too sharply."

Land dealer in West Bank shot

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A West Bank resident was shot and wounded yesterday as he drove through his home village of Ibadia, near Bethlehem, Palestinian sources said.

The sources identified the man as Jamil Assa, formerly of Ramallah, and said he was a well-known land-dealer who had sold extensive tracts of Arab-owned land to Jews.



Restored and recuperated, a young albatross is released yesterday by zookeepers from Sydney, Australia's Long Reef headland. The bird was blown ashore exhausted last week during the city's worst storms on record. (Reuters telephoto)

Soviets: Jewish emigration not on Helsinki agenda

MOSCOW (Reuters). - The Soviet government said yesterday that Jewish emigration would not be on the agenda at its forthcoming talks with Israeli officials in Helsinki.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman told reporters that the Israeli cabinet had put the issue of Soviet Jewish emigration "on the front burner." But he said this went far beyond the agreed agenda.

He repeated his statement of last week that the talks would cover consular questions such as those arising from Soviet property holdings in Israel.

People of Russian origin living permanently in Israel also needed access to Soviet representatives for documents such as birth, marriage and death certificates, he said.

"The talks will be about these things and nothing else," he said.

The Israeli cabinet issued a statement three days ago saying the question of emigration would be its first priority at the talks, starting on August 18. The spokesman also dismissed press reports which suggested the talks were a first step towards the resumption of diplomatic ties, broken by Moscow after the Six Day War in 1967.

A sleepy Polish bank on Allenby St. reawakens

To the Israeli who lived through the years when the banks were the oxygen of the economy, with automatic money machines on every corner and bank clerks buying and selling for the bourse, the PKO branch on Rehov Allenby is like an item in the flea market: charming, quaint and out of date.

But it's a bank looking forward to better times, maybe as good as the mid-1950s, when relations between Warsaw and Jerusalem were good and there was a respectable aliyah from Poland; maybe times as good as the first years the bank was open, between 1933 and Hitler's invasion of Poland.

There's a *zafig* blonde in high heels and a tight dress walking back and forth from the *rachunki biezace* (chequing account) department to

the *papiery wartosciowe* (securities) department.

A short, dark man with a pencil-thin moustache and a wad of cheques and cash, watches her as she moves from behind the long wooden counter with its formica top, past the lone computer terminal and the empty manager's office, to the *kasa* (cashier's box). A middle-aged clerk, with a pinched nose, dyed blonde hair and a pair of glasses hanging from her neck clucks her tongue at the way the man with the moustache watches the blonde.

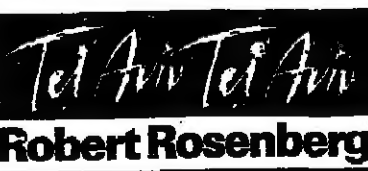
After a while the clerk gets up from her desk where she had been opening envelopes and drinking cof-

fee and accepts a deposit from the man with the moustache.

The Tel Aviv branch of the Bank Polska Kasa Opieki S.A. is a friendly bank. Everybody knows everybody else, and the customers don't usually have to wait in long queues, because there aren't that many customers.

But soon, say the newspapers, there will be a Polish special-interest section in Israel and then, with exclusive rights as the only Eastern European bank in Israel, maybe the old days will be back.

The sudden interest in the bank has bankrupted the deputy manager, Aleksander Wojtynski of the dozen



Robert Rosenberg

copies of the 1984 PKO annual balance sheet he kept in the office. Finally, to show a reporter the annual report, he takes down one hanging on the wall.

Nobody seems to bustle about, except for Wojtynski, who was born in pre-war Poland and came here as an 18-year-old in 1957.

He seems to love his job, and the

way his customers can walk in and ask for a loan and he doesn't have to go to a board of directors or a credit committee for approval. Wojtynski knows the customer, his shop or travel agency, and can decide on the spot to grant the loan. It's a small, honey bank, not the kind of place that has to advertise that "you have a friend" in it.

The pace is slow. Not the slowness of people overworked, but of people who have time to chat, to sip coffee, to talk back and forth from the *rachunki biezace* department to the *papiery wartosciowe* department, just to get a good look at the person sitting with the manager and to flirt a

little with a dark man with a pencil-thin moustache.

But things were different in 1933. Then the bank bustled, discreetly, of course, for it is a bank.

The British were running the country and they had good ties with the Polish government, and there were lots of Poles making their way to Palestine. Money came in and out of Europe through the bank's office, and Polish immigrants opened businesses, importing and exporting goods through the bank where the Polish language and Polish ways were understood.

They got their *kredyty* and could

buy *papiery wartosciowe*, and they opened *rachunki biezace* with the name of the bank printed in English, Hebrew and Polish on the cheque books.

The new immigrants from Poland eventually learned enough Hebrew to manage in their neighbourhood banks. But the businessmen in the area, the owners of the clockshops and bookstores stayed with a bank where they wouldn't be merely another customer.

Now, with word out that things are going to change soon, deputy manager Wojtynski, known as Mr. Aleksander to his clients, is excited by the prospect of a new generation seeking to do business with Poland - and coming in to the bank to ask for *kredyty*.

The weather at major Swissair destinations

	12.8.86	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	14	57	72	Cloudy
BELGIUM	15	58	73	Clear
BREMEN	16	59	74	Clear
CHICAGO	12	54	71	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	11	52	69	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	16	59	74	Clear
GENEVA	16	61	76	Cloudy
HELSINKI	15	58	73	Cloudy
HONG KONG	26	79	84	Cloudy
JERUSALEM	16	59	74	Clear
LONDON	16	61	76	Cloudy
LUXEMBOURG	16	61	76	Cloudy
MADRID	16	61	76	Cloudy
MONTREAL	18	64	79	Cloudy
MOSCOW	12	54	71	Cloudy
NEW YORK	12	54	71	Cloudy
OSLO	12	54	71	Cloudy
PARIS	16	59	74	Clear
RIO DE JANEIRO	15	57	72	Cloudy
SAO PAULO	15	57	72	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	12	54	71	Cloudy
TOKYO	26	79	84	Cloudy
TORONTO	12	54	71	Cloudy
VIENNA	16	59	74	Clear
ZURICH	16	61	76	Cloudy

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

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Jerusalem, 25 Jaffe St. (02225333)
Beirut, 25 Souria St. (04354444)
Bangkok, 25 Jaffe St. (05735722)
Cairo, Ben Gurion Airport (03397171)

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THE WEATHER

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	32	16-30	30
Golan	44	15-32	32
Nahariya	80	20-30	30
Safed	47	17-30	30
Haifa Port	-	-	-
Tiberias	55	21-37	36
Nazareth	46	18-32	32
Afula	36	20-34	35
Shomron	39	18-32	32
Tel Aviv	69	21-30	30
B-G Airport	53	22-32	32
Jericho	38	22-39	39
Gaza	73	22-29	29
Beersheba	24	20-36	36
Eilat	15	25-39	40

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Prof. Shmuel Eidelman of Rambam Hospital is to speak at the weekly meeting of the Haifa Rotary Club in the Nof Hotel at 1 p.m. today.

MK presses for bank probe

By YORAM GAZIT
For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. — No arrests are expected yet in the investigation of alleged misconduct among Bank Hapoalim officials regarding loans to the United Kibbutz Movement (UKM) and Solel Boneh, police sources said yesterday.

The inquiry was initiated by Shmuel Mordechai Virshupski at the end of 1984. Virshupski said a bank employee gave him incriminating documents, which he passed on to Bank of Israel comptroller Galia Manor and the police.

In October 1985, Virshupski wrote to Tar-Nitzav Yoram Gonen, asking about the investigation. According to Virshupski, Gonen said the police had not investigated the matter because of the conflicting opinions of the Bank of Israel comptroller and that of a Bank Hapoalim attorney who maintained nothing illegal had taken place.

About three weeks ago, said Virshupski, he again asked Gonen at a Knesset Interior Committee meeting how far the case had developed. "I was told by Gonen that he had not forgotten the case, and now that he was through with other cases he would muster all his resources to complete this investigation," Virshupski told The Jerusalem Post.

A Bank Hapoalim spokesman yesterday told The Post that the police have been investigating bank officials for the past three months.

IAF strike in

Bekaa killed eight

Defence Minister Rabin said that Monday's Air Force attack on terrorists in the Lebanese Bekaa Valley was part of Israel's ongoing war against terrorists and was not a response to any specific terrorist act.

The strike left eight dead, including four Palestinian guerrillas and an 18-month-old boy, according to Palestinian sources. In the Galilee, fires started by Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanon were fought for several hours by firefighters and Jewish National Fund forestry workers.

Rabin was speaking during a visit to the village of Julis in the Galilee, where he paid his respects to Druse leader Amin Tarif.

Army Radio: No discrimination against women

Army Radio commander Nahman Shai last night denied charges that the radio station had discriminated against women in work assignments.

Nitza Shapira-Liba, the prime minister's adviser on the status of women, sent a letter to Shai yesterday, protesting what she called "lack of equal opportunity" for women serving in Army Radio.

Shapira-Liba said 18 boys and girls had recently completed a pre-army course preparing them to work in the station's news department. She said she had been informed that all the boys had been made reporters, while the girls had received the less prestigious position of production assistants.

Shai said 15 youths had completed the course, and that both boys and girls had been assigned to every position in the news department — reporters, announcers, editors and producers.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

East J'lem daily and magazine shut down

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

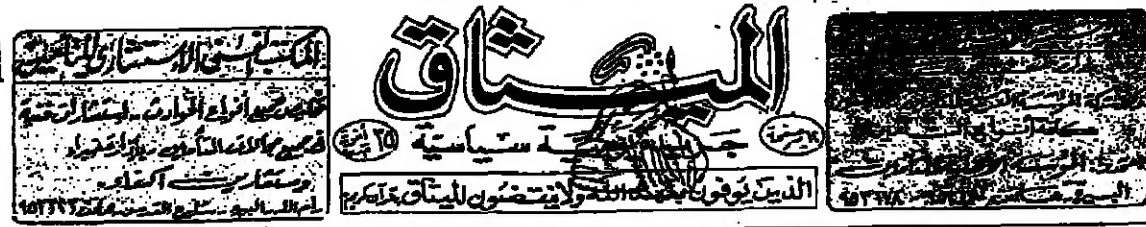
The East Jerusalem *Al-Mithaq* newspaper and *Al-Ahd* magazine were closed last night by the Interior Ministry.

The ministry last month warned the two publications that they faced closure because they were "operated and directed" by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), led by George Habash. *Al-Mithaq* publisher Mahmoud al-Khatib has repeatedly denied the charge.

"This is democracy in Israel," al-Khatib said after he was handed the closure order by two plainclothes policemen. "It was a holiday gift for the 20 employees, who will now be thrown into the streets," he said, referring to the forthcoming Moslem feast of Id al-Adha.

Al-Khatib said the publications would challenge the closure order in the High Court of Justice, but he was not optimistic about the outcome. An Interior Ministry official recently said the ministry had a "solid case" to present before the court.

The chairman of the Association of Israel Journalists in Jerusalem, Eitan Almog, said yesterday that the



ALMITHAQ Jerusalem Tuesday 12 August 1986 No 932



The last issue of 'Al-Mithaq' yesterday.

group had already expressed its opposition to the closure, which it considered "a superfluous step not accepted by Israeli journalists."

Association members met earlier this week with Interior Ministry representative Rafi Levy and other ministry officials on the closure.

Levy said that though he believed in freedom of the press, information received on the publications had compelled him to act "in the interest of state security and public welfare." Levy said only four of over 30 Arab newspapers published in East Jerusalem had been closed since 1967, and that the latest measure was not part of a new policy coordinated with Jordan.

"One has to properly balance freedom of expression and the welfare of the state," he said. In the closure order, based on the 1945 Emergency Regulations, Levy

الطائرات الحربية الاسرائيلية

تغير على الفلسطينيين داخل الاراضي اللبنانية

في بيروت، وان جميع الطائرات الحربية الاسرائيلية قد انسحبت من لبنان، ولكن هذا الامر لم ينعكس على الاراضي اللبنانية.

wrote that "after considering the material submitted to me, and the explanations given [by al-Khatib and his lawyer]... I have decided to revoke the licence" given to the publications. The closure took effect at 1 a.m. this morning.

Al-Khatib said the immediate closure prevented *Al-Mithaq* from publishing today, so it could not report on the measures against it or comment on them. He said he first heard of the closure on the radio, two hours before he was officially notified of the measure.

"It's a punishment for both the Palestinian and Israeli people," he said.

Al-Khatib said his paper was "independent, without connection to any organization, though it represents the Palestinian opposition." Both the daily *Al-Mithaq*, published since 1979, and *Al-Ahd*, published

bi-weekly since 1981, were sympathetic to the Syrian-backed PFLP, and were sharply critical of U.S. Middle East policy.

After the closure order was delivered, *Al-Mithaq* employees stopped work and gathered in al-Khatib's office, along with journalists from other East Jerusalem papers.

The chairman of the Arab Journalists Association in the territories, Radwan Abu Ayyash, said he would call an emergency meeting of the association today to discuss "legal and public steps to cancel the decision to close the newspapers." He called the decision "an undemocratic measure aimed at freedom of the press in the occupied territories."

Al-Khatib's brother Sufian, who had applied to open a new paper with a political line identical to that of *Al-Mithaq*, said he has received no reply to his application.

Death toll on roads still rising

Jerusalem Post Staff

The August traffic death toll continued to rise yesterday as two persons were killed and one was seriously injured in accidents around the country.

A 70-year-old Tel Aviv woman was fatally injured by a train yesterday afternoon. The unidentified woman was hit near Herzliya by a train travelling from Haifa to Tel Aviv.

The Magen David Adom ambulance that arrived at the scene was summoned next to the site of another accident in the Kalkilya region. A 30-year-old man suffered serious head injuries in a traffic accident on the Taiba-Eyal highway.

Near Beersheba, a Beduin girl was killed yesterday morning when she was hit by a truck as she tried to cross the road on a camel.

In Haifa, the magistrates' court ordered the release of Fallah Abu Nadar, 47, the bus driver involved in an accident last week that killed four passengers in Tel Hanan.

In Ashkelon, police apologized to the family of Haim Hadad who was killed last week at the Givati Junction in the south. Despite carrying proper identification, the police identified him as an Arab from Gaza. Hadad's sons found their father in the Ashkelon morgue a day later.

Army: Nothing new in Soviet ships off shore

Post Defence Reporter

There is nothing unusual about Soviet electronic intelligence-gathering ships patrolling the eastern Mediterranean, a military source told The Jerusalem Post yesterday.

He was commenting on reports that two Soviet spy ships had been spotted within listening range of Israel.

At the end of last year two Soviet spy ships were positioned off the Israeli coast following a rise in tension caused by the deployment of Syrian anti-aircraft missiles in eastern Lebanon. The movements of the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean are also constantly shadowed by Soviet spy ships.

Moscow talks end

ARMSCOW (AP). — Top American and Kremlin negotiators ended two days of special arms talks yesterday with no word from either side on what, if anything, was accomplished.

The U.S. delegation headed by Paul Nitze, President Reagan's chief arms adviser, left Moscow in the late afternoon without making any comment to the press.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said at a news conference that the Soviets would not violate the confidential nature of the talks. "I can say only that we hope this meeting will not end without results," he said.

Enraged ex-lover kills

nine in Turkey

ANKARA (Reuters). — A Turkish villager, who left prison to find his former girlfriend had married another man, killed nine people in a frenzied outburst, Turkish newspapers said yesterday.

Nurettin Aksit, 26, spent 16 months in jail for abducting Neriman Akcan, then a minor. He returned to his village near the town of Denizli, western Turkey, this week to find she was already married, the newspaper said.

The daily *Hurriyet* said Aksit Monday shot or knifed to death nine people he met as he searched in vain for his former lover. Gendarmes later arrested him and three other people.



Mothers of Soviet refuseniks meet yesterday with U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering at the American Cultural Centre in Tel Aviv to thank him for his country's efforts on behalf of their sons. They also requested that U.S. officials raise the issue of Soviet Jewry in all future contacts with the Soviets. (Israel Sun)

Second bomb attack on Shawwa property

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter
and Itim

A police sapper yesterday blew up a bomb planted near a Gaza garage in a building owned by the city's deposed mayor, Rashad Shawwa, security sources said.

The small charge was discovered at about 7:30 a.m., and damaged the building slightly when it was detonated, according to the sources.

It was the second attack on property belonging to Shawwa since he criticized the PLO in an interview on Jordan television three weeks ago. His Gaza citrus packing plant was set on fire shortly before he returned

from Amman, and leaflets condemning him were distributed in Gaza.

Shawwa charged in the interview that the PLO had disregarded the wish of Palestinians in the territories, and he called on it to accept UN Resolution 242.

Shawwa yesterday declined to comment on the bomb attempt, saying he preferred to wait for a claim of responsibility for the blast.

A caller to AFP in Amman said the bomb had been planted by the Abu Nidal group, and that it blew up in Shawwa's garage, causing casualties and extensive damage. Shawwa met yesterday in Gaza

with Coordinator of Activities in the Territories Shmuel Goren. Shawwa said the discussion covered his visit to Jordan, as well as plans to develop the territories. He said Goren told him Israel would facilitate the transfer of funds and the development of projects in the areas, providing they were "purely economic and not connected to politics."

Meanwhile, an explosive charge was found yesterday morning in Netanyahu's market. Two municipal officials were talking to a stall-owner when they noticed a bag attached to a bench in an adjacent stall. The police were called and detonated the charge.

Peres pledges aid to farm settlements

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

GRANOT. — The government will do all in its power to help financially crippled farming settlements, Prime Minister Peres pledged yesterday during a tour of northern moshavim.

Agriculture, said Peres, is not merely a branch of industry, but the basis of the state. "Without agriculture we would lose the land and without the land our sovereignty would only be on paper," he added.

The tough-talking settlers took advantage of the prime minister's visit to voice their complaints about the financial and security problems besetting the region.

Menahem Assaf, speaking on behalf of members of Moshav Metuam, said that when they settled there 20 years ago nobody owed a

single agora.

Today after being encouraged to take loans for expansion and modernization, each family has debts averaging \$100,000, he said.

A settler from Moshav Tzuriel accused Peres of heading a government that had overseen the collapse of farming, particularly in the Galilee.

Peres agreed that the economic problems of the settlements had reached crisis proportions. It would cost the country, which itself has debts totalling billions of dollars, at least \$1 billion to bail them out.

Nevertheless he pledged that the government would not rest until a solution was found.

The settlers also complained about the recent Katyusha rocket attacks in the north, saying that not

every incident is reported in the press.

Peres replied that the IDF is doing a sterling job in preventing terrorist infiltrations.

In Saknin Peres yesterday called on Palestinian Arabs to stop thinking of the PLO as their sole representative.

The PLO is divided and isolated and therefore could never be a partner in peace talks, he told hundreds of Israeli Arabs.

"What the Arabs want is not acceptable to the Jews, and what the Jews want is not acceptable to the Arabs," said Peres.

The only way to break the deadlock, he maintained, is by Jews and Arabs sitting and talking to one another.

"We will not tire of trying to achieve this aim," he said.

Boiled water for Yagur

By MENACHEM SHALEV
For The Jerusalem Post

The 1,400 residents of Kibbutz Yagur, near Haifa, were ordered yesterday to drink only boiled water because of excess bacteria in their water supplies.

Kiryat Gat residents have been under similar restrictions since Friday and last week two neighbourhoods in Kiryat Bialik were also found to be polluted.

The Kibbutz Yagur action was taken after its drinking water was found to have a higher count of coli bacteria than permitted.

Uri Marinov, director of the Interior Ministry's Environmental Protection Service, charged that the recent discoveries of contaminated water were "a natural outgrowth of the dismal attention given to our water supplies."

Marinov told The Post that a report recently submitted to the health

ministry stated that Israel's per capita water-related illness rate is five times higher than the rate in the U.S.

Marinov also said that a commission headed by Prof. Gedalia Shelef of the Technion had described last year's dysentery epidemic in the Haifa Bay area as "the worst such case in the world in the past 10 years."

"The administration of our drinking water is in a state of total collapse," Marinov charged. "No one is enforcing the laws."

Marinov added that Shelef's commission had recommended that all the drinking water in the country be purified by chlorination.

Dr. Shimon Sherf, Southern District health officer, said yesterday that the exact source of the Kiryat Gat contamination has not been found, but he added that health ministry experts suspect a local factory may be the source of the problem.

IDF officer relieved of command

Post Defence Reporter

An IDF officer who recently refused to allow his unit to carry out its mission because of "poor conditions" has been relieved of his command, IDF TV reported yesterday. The IDF spokesman said he was unable to confirm the report.

The incident occurred about two months ago, ITV said. Only after a complaint by a reserve officer and subsequent reports in the press (including The Jerusalem Post) was the matter taken up by the IDF, the television report said.

Yesterday, according to ITV, an investigation conducted by Deputy Chief of General Staff Aluf Dan Shomron found that the officer had received permission for his action. Despite this he was relieved of his command, since he had not conformed to the IDF standard of carrying out the mission no matter what the difficulties.

Arens: Rotation won't affect Taba vote today

Minister without Portfolio Moshe Arens does not believe that considerations of rotation will affect the voting of the ministers at today's meeting on the Taba normalization of relations package with Egypt.

"None of the members of the inner cabinet, Likud or Labour, will, I believe, take a decision which will be contrary to the interests of the state because of considerations of rotation," he said. "The decision has nothing to do with rotation."

The minister was referring to the comment recently made in Labour circles that, despite a show of misgivings and disaffection, the Likud ministers would endorse the Taba normalization package if only because a rejection of it would lead to a break-up of the government by Prime Minister Peres and the cancellation of rotation, which is two months hence.

Arens was unwilling to go into the nature of the Taba compromise and the normalization agreements reached between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations over the weekend, saying that he was saving his comments for today's meeting. He merely said that he "assumed" that what was agreed to by the Israeli representatives to the talks conformed with the 14-point resolution of the inner cabinet on January 31.

That resolution said that in exchange for Israeli readiness to go to arbitration over Taba, Israel would demand in the talks with Egypt a host of Egyptian normalization measures and concessions.

Arens said that the inner cabinet has not been briefed at all since that resolution was passed on the negotiations, and therefore he did not know whether Israel has since received from Egypt a report on the Ras Burka massacre (by an Egyptian security man last October of seven Israeli tourists), as stipulated in the resolution. "I'll find out tomorrow," he said.

Arens was almost equally unforthcoming about the General Security Service affair, saying it is still being investigated by the authorities. He declined to comment on the cabinet's handling of the affair to date, beyond saying that "the president is empowered to grant pardons, and whoever doubted that has now been shown that he was wrong."

Arens defined the pardons not as a solution but as "a means of handling" the affair. He implied that they were not meant to solve the problem, and he said that "the president did not say that he wished, by granting the pardons, to avoid an investigation... He said only that he had wanted to 'end the devil's dance.' This is not the same thing as wanting to end the investigation."

Will the police investigation of the affair put an end to it? "That depends on its outcome. If it

IN PERSON

BENNY MORRIS

results in closing the files, then yes. But if it results in prosecutions, then it won't."

But don't the pardons obviate the possibility of prosecutions? "Not necessarily. There are persons who have not received pardons," he said.

Arens believed that the affair has "damaged the GSS, and it will take time to repair the damage."

Arens became almost laconic on the Lavi, of which he is considered a major patron and lobbyist. He seemed unimpressed by the massive criticism of the project from the U.S. and from within the Israeli defence establishment and bureaucracy. When I suggested that some members of the general staff have turned against the project, he asked "who?"



implying that so much criticism or objections have surfaced.

But immediately afterwards, he conceded implicitly that given the limited budget, it is natural for every branch and corps head in the IDF to demand more money for his branch and to assert that too much of the pie is going to other services and branches. "This is only natural," he said.

The Lavi, he summed up, "is the most important and beautiful thing that has been done in Israel in recent years."

The project, he said, can be stopped. "Similar projects have recently been aborted in various countries. But it would be logical, and would cause great harm."

He said that Israel would end up buying for the 1990s "not as good a plane and more expensive." He also feared that should the project be aborted, the U.S. might not see its way to continuing providing Israel with funds that can be spent in Israel, as they have done with the Lavi.

Likud MKs to meet Rabin to discuss Area 9 decision

By SARAH HONIG
Post Political Correspondent

TEL AVIV. — A delegation of Likud MKs is to confer with Defence Minister Rabin this morning to argue against the recent decision to hand the military Area 9 lands in the Galilee over to Arabs. The delegation will then meet Likud ministers and demand action against the Area 9 decision.

The decision was condemned yesterday by the Likud Knesset faction.

None of the Likud's ministers took part in yesterday's stormy meeting, but it was attended by a non-Likud member, Yisrael Koenig, former Interior Ministry representative for the northern district. He stressed that handing Area 9 to private holders would undo all efforts to increase the Jewish population of the Galilee. Herut MK Uzi Landau labelled the handover "the establishment of a Palestinian state in the Galilee first. The Alignment is ready

to sacrifice national interests for political gain," he charged.

Coalition executive chairman Haim Kautzman said "the decision to hand the lands over a mere 70 days before rotation is nothing short of political graft. The Alignment is trying to win Arab votes."

During a tour of Saknin, Prime Minister Peres denied that the decision to return Area 9 was politically motivated and insisted that it had been made out of humanitarian consideration.

Area 9, designated a military zone by the British in 1944, has been the site of repeated confrontations between IDF training units and Arab farmers. After studying Arab claims for the past year, a four-man ministerial committee last week decided to return the land to its Arab owners.

Liberal MK Benny Shalit exclaimed that "Ezer Weizman is the best leader the Arabs have had since Haj Amin al-Husseini."

'Independence' rejected by tiny black homeland

SIYABUSWA, South Africa (Reuters). — A tiny tribal homeland in South Africa yesterday decided to shelve plans to accept nominal independence from Pretoria, dealing a rebuff to the white-led government.

Prince Cornelius Mahlangu, health and welfare minister in Kwan-debele homeland, said its legislative assembly had voted to cancel the independence plans in an attempt to end mass violence in the territory north of Pretoria.

Scores of residents have died in the barren area during violent protests sparked by the independence decision originally announced by South African President P.W. Botha and Kwan-debele leader Simon Skisana in May.

Independence day was set for December 11. The territory would have become the fifth "independent" homeland created for black people under the apartheid policy of racial segregation but not recognized outside South Africa.

Opposition to independence among the 500,000 residents was mainly over fears that the move would further increase economic hardship in the impoverished territory, largely dependent on jobs in South Africa proper.

The four homelands which have accepted "independence" — Transkei, Ciskei, Venda, and Bophuthatswana — recently complained that their residents now required special permission when seeking jobs in South Africa.

In Durban, Botha yesterday described the international campaign against South Africa as "one of the most extreme forms of political fraud of the 20th century," and said sanctions would make his country stronger.

Botha also proposed negotiations with the leaders of the U.S., Britain, France and West Germany and of neighbouring southern African countries on regional security and economic problems.

In a seaside conference hall, Botha addressed a crowd of 3,000, mostly delegates of his National Party meeting for the first time in four years to shape political policy.

Most of Botha's speech reiterated established government policy and endorsed the National Party's programme of cautious political reform, stopping short of a one-man, one-vote system.

Heinrich Windelen, minister for inter-German affairs, said in a televised statement the wall remained an expression of contempt for human rights and a permanent stain on the image of the Communist East German republic.

"This edifice has long since achieved tragic notoriety. Its only aim is to lock in an entire population," Windelen said.

"Thus this wall has become a symbol of Communist contempt for human rights throughout the world."

Senior figures from the ruling coalition parties and the opposition Social Democrats (SPD) used similar phrases to describe the wall as a monstrous symbol of defeat for East Berlin's attempts to win the support of its own people.

All said East Germany would bear a stigma as long as it maintained the fortified concrete barrier, which was started on August 13, 1961, to stem a mass exodus from the Communist state to West Germany.

SPD spokesman Horst Ehmke said the anniversary was a time to remember the 75 people who had died trying to escape across the wall, which runs through the centre of Berlin and encircles the western half of the city.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and SPD chairman Willy Brandt, who was governing mayor of Berlin in 1961, will take part in a ceremony in West Berlin today to mark the wall's anniversary and commemorate its victims.

East Berlin is staging a jubilant commemoration of what is officially known as the anti-fascist defence wall.

Windelen said that even in East Germany there was nobody who took this terminology seriously and believed that the wall had been erected as a means of defence rather than imprisonment.

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Two young children wonder what their new life will be like as they wait behind an iron fence at a passport control point in West Berlin yesterday. The children are among nearly 20,000 refugees who have sought political asylum recently, coming into the West from East Berlin. (Reuters telephoto)

Both Berlins to mark 25th anniversary of wall

WEST BERLIN (Reuters). — The West German government and all main political parties joined yesterday in condemning the Berlin Wall on the eve of its 25th anniversary, branding it a symbol of an entire nation's imprisonment.

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Iraqi jets raid oil terminal

Iran fires missile at Baghdad

BAHRAIN (Reuters). — Iraqi jets blasted a major Iranian oil terminal in the southern Gulf yesterday, hours after Iran fired a surface-to-surface missile at Baghdad.

The low-level raid on Sirri Island left up to three tankers ablaze and halted operations at the terminal, shipping sources in the region said.

One source said a number of people were killed in the raid, Iraq's first on the terminal, while others spoke of about 10 casualties.

In Baghdad, an Iraqi military

spokesman said Iran fired a surface-to-surface missile at the capital early yesterday and called the act "a grave escalation" of the six-year Gulf war.

He made no mention of casualties, in line with Iraqi practice of not giving details on such attacks.

In Teheran, the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) said in a statement the missile hit the Al-Dowra oil refinery. The Iranian news agency Irna said the refinery was 15 km. south of Baghdad.

Baghdad residents said they saw

only small flames after the explosion, at 1.55 a.m., suggesting no oil facility had been hit.

The raids on Baghdad and Sirri Island mark a fresh escalation in the six-year-old war and raise fears of an upsurge in retaliatory strikes by both sides, similar to last year's "war of the cities" in which hundreds died.

Hours after the missile attack on Baghdad, Iraqi warplanes were seen heading towards the warfront for what diplomats said could be reprisal raids.

Iraq's morale problem gives edge to Iran

More and more western military analysts are predicting that Iran may eventually win its war with Iraq, according to an article published by the Los Angeles Times.

Although the analysts cautioned that it was too soon to predict winners and losers, they argued that the "balance of morale" has swung sharply in Iran's favour, the Times said.

"The Iraqis are not sufficiently able to get their act together to kick the Iranians out. They have a morale problem all the way up to the top," the newspaper quoted Bob Elliott, a British Army major at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London, as saying.

The article also quoted William Olson, a civilian analyst at the U.S. Army War College, who said: "Concerns are being expressed about the survivability of Saddam Hussein and

indications are that he may have stepped back from the decision-making."

Hussein reportedly has turned the prosecution of the war over to Iraq's general staff, following complaints from generals in the field that inept political interference was partly responsible for Iraq's recent military setbacks.

"Hussein may feel it's time to let someone else make the decisions," Olson also said. "The next few months are going to be critical."

In February, Iranian forces captured Faw, an abandoned Iraqi oil terminal town, and about 325 square kms. of surrounding territory.

The loss was Iran's first deep penetration of Iraqi territory since the war began in September 1980. And while not a major strategic loss, it was a major blow to Iraqi morale, the Times noted.

Last month, Iraqi forces also were forced back from the Iranian town of Mehran. And there has been renewed fighting around the Majnoon Islands, in the southern Hawizah marshes, which Iraq earlier this year claimed it had recaptured.

The analysts agree that Iraq's major problem is a lack of morale and willpower, rather than a shortage of arms, the Times said.

"When push comes to shove, it's the guy behind the pike that counts," one analyst was quoted as saying. "Obviously, the Iraqis are not showing much willingness to fight."

The newspaper quoted another analyst who described the mood in Baghdad as one of "near despair."

"There is a dull, mood in the country, and increasing frustration at the length of the war. The feeling seems to be that Saddam Hussein is leading the country into a mess," he said.

Hussein, UAE head discuss Gulf war

ABU DHABI (AP). — King Hussein of Jordan and United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan discussed in Abu Dhabi yesterday the Gulf war.

A UAE official source said they held "a comprehensive review of developments in the Arab world, bilateral relations and the Iraq-Iran war."

The Jordanian monarch and

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak last week urged Arab support for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's five-point initiative to end the war.

The source told the official Emirates News Agency that Zayed and Hussein also discussed "means to bolster joint Arab action during the coming stage by eliminating all forms of inter-Arab differences in a way to serve the higher interest of the Arab nation."

Another top Sikh terrorist caught

AMRITSAR, India. — India's second-ranking Sikh terrorist was captured yesterday, only three days after the nation's top Sikh separatist leader was caught.

Punjab Police Director-General Julius Rebeiro said security forces captured Tarsem Singh Khar in a raid in the Kapurthala district east of Amritsar.

He said Khar is head of the Khalistan Liberation Army group in Punjab state.

Meanwhile, police said that Sikh terrorists shot to death three members of a Hindu family in a village outside this Sikh sacred city late Monday night.

Police in Pune have arrested at least 121 people in incidents of violence set off by the assassination of former army chief Arun Vaidya, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

Vaidya, India's most decorated soldier, was cremated Monday in Pune, a major garrison town about 150 km. east of Bombay.

Vaidya was army chief during the military assault on the Sikh's holiest shrine, the Golden Temple in Amritsar, and newspaper reports said a Sikh extremist group claimed responsibility for the killing. (AP, Reuters)

He said the number was so large

because farmers had followed government guidelines, issued after the accident, to the letter, destroying produce and not putting cattle out to pasture.

GORBACHEV. — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev met in Moscow yesterday with his Vietnamese counterpart, Truong Chinh, and accepted an invitation to visit Vietnam at a time to be set, the Soviet news agency Tass reported.

W. German farmers to get \$240m. for Chernobyl

BONN (Reuters). — West Germany said yesterday it expected to pay its farmers some 500 million marks (\$240 million), twice the amount originally envisaged, in compensation for loss of income resulting from the Chernobyl nuclear accident.

The state secretary in the Agriculture Ministry, Wolfgang von Gerdern, told a news conference the government had received a staggering 314,000 applications for compensation.

He said the number was so large

Phalangists try to resolve struggle

BEIRUT (AP). — President Amin Jemayel's Phalange party set up a five-man "military cabinet" yesterday to resolve an inter-militia power struggle to control Lebanon's Christian heartland.

A Phalangist communique said the group was placed under the direct authority of party chairman George Saadeh, who was seeking a compromise between the warring wings of the Lebanese Forces, the nation's largest Christian militia.

Police said East Beirut remained quiet for a third straight day as rival Christian militias stuck to their guns on street checkpoints and barricades despite orders from their rival commands to return to barracks.

The five-man body, which takes orders from and answers only to Saadeh, is headed by chief of the Phalange party's security department, Butros Khawand.

The cabinet also groups three mainline Phalangists and one follower of Lebanese Forces Commander Samir Ja'ja, the anti-Syrian leader that the rebels in the 8,000-strong militia want ousted.

Pilgrims demonstrate

NICOSIA (AP). — Tens of thousands of Muslim pilgrims staged an "immunity from pagans" demonstration in the holy city of Mecca, Saudi Arabia, Monday night, chanting "death to U.S.A. and USSR." Iran's Islamic Republic news agency reported yesterday.

The state-run agency, monitored in Nicosia, did not say whether Saudi authorities, who have banned political demonstrations during the pilgrimage, took any action.

Anzus Pact still lives despite New Zealand's suspension, says Lange

WELLINGTON (AFP). — The Australian, New Zealand and U.S. (Anzus) Treaty still exists, although Wellington's defence relationship with Washington has changed, New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange said yesterday.

Lange was commenting on the announcement in San Francisco by U.S. and Australian officials of the suspension of New Zealand from the South Pacific alliance for its anti-nuclear policy, which bars access to New Zealand ports for U.S. warships.

"Both the U.S. and Australia affirm that the treaty is extant," Lange told a press conference.

"As predicted, the Anzus Treaty is in place. There will be a bilateral understanding between the U.S. and Australia as there has been for years, and there will be an Anzus understanding as there has been for

years."

The Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (Anzac) was a World War I formation, which symbolizes the tradition Anzalasian military alliance.

Lange said the only difference now was that the "U.S. says it is not prepared to carry out its security guarantee to New Zealand."

But he argued that the 35-year-old Anzus alliance had never entailed an automatic military guarantee to New Zealand, and that the "obligation for New Zealand is to prepare itself in conjunction with its ally Australia to defend its interests in the region."

He added that New Zealand would fulfil this obligation.

Lange also rejected assertions by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that New Zealand's anti-nuclear policies had also cut access to New Zealand for U.S. aircraft.

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After U.S. strike against Libya

Backers now only more cautious

By AVI HOFFMANN
Post Defence Reporter

The American retaliatory raid against Libya, so far, has successfully deterred terrorist action against the U.S. Tel Aviv University terrorism expert Ariel Merari said yesterday.

The three main backers of international terrorism — Syria, Libya and Iran — are now more cautious about direct involvement in terrorism, he added.

International terrorism caused more fatalities in 1985 than in the previous year, even though quantitatively it remained at a similar level, said Merari at a press conference marking the appearance of *Inter 85*, a review of international terrorism in 1985.

The book was compiled by a team, headed by Merari, from the university's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies and is published and distributed by The Jerusalem Post.

Merari did not believe that Syria, Libya and Iran would completely desist from supporting terrorism following the American air strike. He suggested, however, that they would be more cautious in their sponsorship of terror groups, although they would continue to supply money, weapons and training.

In the long term, said Merari, the overall image of international terrorism is unlikely to change much. Possibly there will be less spectacular actions, since these require cross-country smuggling of large quantities of weaponry (usually via the diplomatic service of one of the sponsor nations). Although he did not expect a decline in terrorist activity in 1986, Merari thought that attacks this year would be less lethal because of the decline in direct support from sponsor states.

Palestinian terrorism is increasing, said Merari. In 1985 there was a 100 per cent rise in the number of attacks and they were more lethal than the year before. In 1985, Fatah, the main arm of the PLO, returned to international terror, carrying out the Larnaca and Barcelona operations and involving itself in the Achille Lauro hijacking.

The Fatah pro-Syrian rebel group led by Abu Musa started large-scale operations, including the June 6 bombing of El Al's Madrid airport facility, and the hijacking of a TWA airliner.

This upsurge in activities by Abu Musa was worrisome, said Merari. Whereas previously this terror group had no infrastructure or experience in international terror, it was now acquiring them, he said.

"We must assume that the spectacular operations that Abu Musa tried to carry out signify willingness

and the beginning of a capability to carry out a large-scale international terror campaign," he warned.

A total of 408 international terrorist incidents was recorded in 1985, compared to 412 in 1984. However, there were many more lethal incidents in 1985, as 639 people were killed that year compared to 349 in 1984. In 1985, 321 people died in one terrorist incident — the bombing of an Air India airliner.

The intensified lethal aspect, said Merari, coincided with a resurgence of Palestinian terrorism. Terror actions carried out by Palestinians are usually deadlier than others and are characterized by the use of more weaponry, explosives and perpetrators. The Palestinian terrorist is also indiscriminate about the victims and is willing to kill as many people as possible. State support was instrumental in this type of terrorism.

However, the true impact of terrorism, said Merari, could not simply be measured by the number of casualties, but rather by the psychological-political impact. Small, localized bombings don't make international headlines. Attacks on aviation, even without spectacular casualties, do have that psychological and political impact, he said.

For the purposes of the review, the Jaffee Centre defined interna-

tional terrorism as events that involved the interests of more than one state. It did not concern itself with domestic terror nor the incidents perpetrated by underground organizations against a foreign army, e.g., Afghani rebels against the Soviets or attacks on the IDF in Lebanon. An ETA (Basque) attack on Spanish militia did not figure in the review, but an ETA attack on Avis, Hertz and Ford offices in Spain was listed. The information contained in the survey was gleaned from local and foreign press sources.

Inter 85 comprises two main sections. The first is a statistical survey describing the primary characteristics of terrorist incidents that took place during 1985 throughout the world. The 130-page review also includes statistical tables, a chronology of significant international terrorist incidents, and a list of all terrorist organizations involved in acts of international terrorism in 1985.

The editorial team included Merari (director of the JCSS project on terrorism), Anat Kurz, Tamar Prat, Sophia Kotzer and Yoram Schweitzer. The review focuses on Shi'ite/fundamentalist terrorism, Palestinian terrorism and the attitude of Western states to international terrorism.

INTER 85

A Review of International Terrorism in 1985



The Jerusalem Post

IN BRIEF

Jack Lemmon to star in O'Neill play here

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — American actor Jack Lemmon is to arrive here in mid-October for seven performances of Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey into Night*, with the cast of the Broadway production.

The director of the Broadway production, Jonathan Miller, will also be in Israel for the engagement, which is a joint project of the Habimah Theatre, American producer Emanuel Eisenberg and Bill Strom, the managing-director of the Batsheva dance company.

Suspected wife-killer remanded for 15 days

TEL AVIV (Itim). — David Dok, suspected of murdering his estranged wife Gracia, was remanded into custody for 15 days yesterday by the magistrates court here.

At the request of Dok's attorney, the judge ordered that the suspect be sent for psychiatric observation.

Gracia Dok was shot three times in the head on Sunday afternoon at the door to her Ramat Gan apartment. Her husband was arrested several minutes later on a nearby street.

The name of the couple was originally reported here yesterday as Tzok.

The heads of the battered women's shelter in Herzliya said yesterday that Gracia Dok had spent a number of months in the shelter, and that her husband had been arrested in the past on suspicion of beating her.

Replacing prison head

BEERSHEBA (Itim). — Prisons Service Commissioner Rafi Suissa is to replace the head of the local prison, Marcel Labelle, because of the recent increase in violence there.

In the few months since Labelle took over, prisoners have staged several violent demonstrations, including one in which 100 prisoners slashed their arms. Last week 11 prisoners held a hunger strike. Six prisoners were injured in a fight this week, and on Monday a prisoner was stabbed.

The dismissal will not become effective until a replacement is found.

Usfiya official held

HAIFA (Itim). — The secretary and treasurer of the Usfiya local council is to remain in jail until tomorrow as the police continue to probe alleged financial irregularities in the Druse village south of Haifa.

"Badi Badi" was arrested last week on suspicion of forging documents and cheques. The Haifa Magistrates Court yesterday extended his remand for 48 hours. He is to be released tomorrow on NIS 2,500 bail.

5 hurt, 13 arrested in battle of clans

RAMLE (Itim). — A brawl between two clans in the village of Jawarish near here has left five people in the hospital and 13 in the police lock-up.

The brawl broke out Monday evening when a pickup truck driven by a member of the al-Ubra clan nearly ran over a child of the Abu Janan clan. The child's family threw rocks at the truck.

The incident sparked fighting with clubs and stones. Five people were injured, and police who arrived on the scene arrested 13.

Irish Jews decry possible Waldheim visit

DUBLIN (Reuters). — Ireland's tiny Jewish community has expressed dismay at the possibility that Kurt Waldheim may visit here on his first official trip abroad as president of Austria.

The Irish government has not considered the possibility, a spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs said yesterday. A formal invitation to Austria's president to visit Ireland was made by Irish President Patrick Hillery to Waldheim's predecessor during an official visit to Vienna last April.

"Obviously it was the position of president of Austria that was involved, not the person," said Joseph Briscoe of Ireland's Jewish Representative Council. "The person who holds that office now is, until such time as he proves otherwise, discrediting the position. I would not like to see him visit."

An official visit by Waldheim would damage Ireland's international standing, he said.

Haifa Theatre takes a big stride forward ...critics complain: It's 'blasphemous'

By MARSHA POMERANTZ

The Haifa Municipal Theatre is to bring its two major hits to New York City's Circle in the Square theatre next February — becoming the first Israeli repertory theatre to have an extended visit in New York.

Artistic director Theodore Mann and managing director Paul Libin of Circle in the Square were in Haifa last week to sign the agreement with Noam Semel, the local theatre's managing director.

According to the contract, *Ghetto* will run for three weeks and *Soul of a Jew* will run for two, Semel told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

The plays, by Yehoshua Sobol, in productions directed by Gedalia Besser, will have simultaneous translation from Hebrew into English by four interpreters. Semel said the use of four rather than the usual two voices worked well during the theatre's appearances last May and June at the Chicago Festival and the Kennedy Centre in Washington.

The Circle management has specified that anyone in New York showing proof of Israeli citizenship will be entitled to half-price tickets to the performances.

Both New York Mayor Edward Koch and Haifa Mayor Arye Gurel

will be invited to the premiere. At Gurel's request, the theatre's performances will be used to help raise funds for the newly formed Haifa Foundation, which is to support social and cultural projects in the city.

This may be the first time the theatre has been of practical use to the beleaguered mayor, who has tried to maintain a rickety coalition with religious and right-wing factions that regularly attack the city-supported theatre for plays that raise controversial political questions.

Ghetto, the story of a theatre troupe in the Vilna Ghetto, deals with some of the less heroic aspects of survival. *Soul of a Jew*, based on the life and suicide of Otto Weininger, a brilliant, self-hating Viennese Jew, probes the relationship and possible clashes between Israeli and Jewish identity.

Semel said he believed that opposition to the productions is largely a matter of local politics. "Once there's public recognition of the artistic level of the theatre's work — as with *Ghetto* and *Soul*, for instance — the opposition stops," he said. "But of course there are some in Haifa who would be only too happy to see the theatre converted into a synagogue."

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Haifa's Municipal Theatre combines acting talent with skill in creating controversy, especially when it presents the plays of artistic co-director Yehoshua Sobol.

With the country's largest subscribing audience, the theatre has come under attack from right-wing and religious leaders, some of whom have criticized its original productions as "anti-Israeli" and blasphemous.

But even when it presents classics, the theatre attracts attention. In Moliere's *Tamfuge*, it used an actor dressed as Aguda MK Avraham Shapira — which inspired protests by ultra-Orthodox residents.

Some observers suggest that the theatre makes a point of arousing these protests as a way of getting publicity.

But at the same time, they say Sobol's plays are dangerous expressions of "leftist" politics.

Most recently, Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Haifa She'ar Yashuv Cohen, considered a moderate, asked Mayor Arye Gurel for an investigation of the "recurring scandals" every time a Sobol play is staged. The rabbi said he had been

told about the plays by his wife, a regular theatre-goer.

The mayor has been an unbending champion of the theatre, however. Although it receives city funds, he says it should retain the freedom to put on what it wants.

The theatre's artistic management, of course, agrees. It argues that it has a duty to raise disturbing questions facing the nation — even if at times it may use exaggeration to make its point.

Deputy Mayor Erich Loeb gave a mixed review to the productions.

"I'm against some of the theatre's 'leftist' excesses, but I'm also a big fan of its acting," he said. Loeb is also a member of the theatre's board of management.

"I don't expect them to perform the life of Herzl, but some of their lines are too much," he said, mentioning in particular a few lines in *The Palestinian*, one of its heavily criticized productions.

Loeb said he was pleased with the recognition the theatre has received with its performances in Edinburgh, West Germany and the U.S. At the same time, he criticized the presentation of *Soul of a Jew* in Germany because of its possible anti-Semitic interpretations.

The Wall — day of mourning for West Germany

By WLADIMIR STRUMINSKI

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

EAST BERLIN. — Twenty-five years ago, East Germany erected the wall that divided Berlin. East Germany is celebrating the anniversary, but for West Germany it is a day of mourning.

Each state claims ideological superiority over the other, although West Germany has a clear advantage in that it does not have to prevent its citizens forcibly from mass defection to the East.

East Germany claims to have wiped out Nazism, and accuses its western counterpart of having failed to do so. Yet West Germany has made a special Jewish-German relationship a basic tenet of its political philosophy, while East Germany has not.

East Berlin resident Kurt Goldstein, 72, is a veteran Communist and former Auschwitz inmate. Today, he is secretary-general of the International Federation of Anti-Fascist Fighters.

Goldstein's parents were Jews but he describes himself only as being "of Jewish origin," and gives his

nationality as German, and his religion as "none." He told *The Post* why his country rejects a special relationship with the Jews.

"The GDR," says Goldstein, "has no special responsibility to the Jews. We have overcome ideologically, morally and materially, what the Nazis did to the Jews. The GDR has settled accounts with fascism, racism and anti-Semitism. All special relationships are evil. There are only a few blockheads in the GDR who dislike the Jews, the Russians, or others. GDR youth are raised in the spirit of national tolerance and international friendship."

Goldstein says that East Germany does not recognize the Jews as a separate people. "For us, they are Americans, or French, or Belgians, and we want to maintain with them friendly relations as we do with their fellow-countrymen in general."

The Jews were not the only victims of the Nazis, says Goldstein. Millions of people of other origin also lost their lives at the hands of the Nazis.

Goldstein maintains that Jews in East Germany are citizens with

equal rights. If they were persecuted by the Nazis, he says, they receive assistance from the state, which helps all the victims of Nazi persecution.

Goldstein feels there is no reason for East Germany to pay Jews in other countries compensation for Nazi crimes. It is true that the Allies decided at the 1945 Potsdam conference that the German people had to indemnify other peoples. The GDR, however, paid compensation to the Soviet Union, and through the Soviet Union to other countries in Western Europe.

As for other nations, Goldstein feels that compensating them was the task of West Germany. East German compensation to Jews in the West would mean abandoning the Potsdam agreement. He is glad nothing came of the compensation talks held in the 1970s between East Germany and U.S. Jews.

The Jewish delegates rejected the East German offer of DM 1 million. The GDR, says Goldstein, agreed to hold the talks simply as a gesture of good will.

On East Germany's relations with

Israel, Goldstein says, "The GDR's attitude to Israel is based on the fact that Israel is a reality."

But there have never been diplomatic relations between Israel and East Germany, which, apparently, is in no hurry to establish them.

Goldstein points out that contacts between the two countries have increased. East German artists have performed in Israel, while a group of Israelis, former residents of the city of Chemnitz, today Karl-Marx-Stadt, visited East Germany a few months ago. The recent visit of a group of Israeli writers to East Berlin at the invitation of the GDR writers union is another pointer.

"Such things usually start with culture," says Goldstein.

I asked Goldstein whether Israel benefits from East Germany's support, of the PLO. Goldstein claims no knowledge of military support, but he thinks it right that East Germany assist the Palestinians. The GDR would help Israel too, but a "purified Israel," purified of its belief that it can rule its neighbours and occupy their territory."

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LOTTO. — In yesterday's drawing of the national lottery, the following numbers were picked: 1, 17, 22, 23, 31, 36, and the additional number: 12.

Upper Galilee music

Upper Galilee Chamber Music: Days at Kfar Shimon (August 9). Gilboa: "Wild Asphodel" — A Small Anthology from the Gilboa; Mozart: Piano Quartet in E flat, K.493; Bach-Schubert: Counterpoint VIII from "Art of the Fugue"; The string quartet; Glenn Gould: "So You Want to Write a Fugue?" for four voices and string quartet; Beethoven: Septet in E flat, Op. 20.

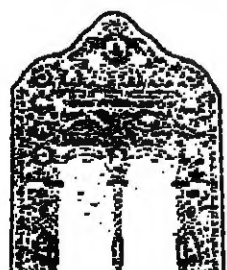
GILBOA'S commissioned piece cannot, of course, be evaluated at first hearing. At least there was no screeching, scratching or other extra-musical noise; it often sounded like a *soffeggiato* exercise for the alto: Mira Zakai. The instrumentalists included Ora Shiran, violin; Yossi Gutman, viola; Doron Teustler, cello; Uri Shoham, flute; and Alon Bor, percussion. If this piece, like most works commissioned from the temporary composers, survives the occasion, only time will tell.

Then we were raised to the inspiration of Mozart, which found

lively interpreters in Yonatan Zak and members of the Israel String Quartet. Further elevation into the mysteries of Bach's music was afforded by the intensive playing by the Israel String Quartet, which then brought us down to earth with a very amusing parody by Glenn Gould in which they were joined by the four singers, good-naturedly participating in the joke.

Beethoven's Septet provided the definitive ending of seven days of concentrated chamber music which, with its light-hearted spirit, sent the mood. The capable performance was in the hands of Gil Sharon, violin; Yossi Gutman, viola; Catalin Ilea-Meier, cello; Gabriel Vole, double bass; Robert Pade, horn; Eli Eban, clarinet; Uri Shalev, bassoon.

YOHANAN BOEHM



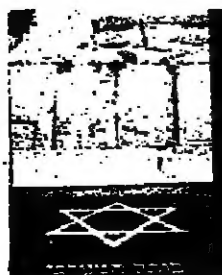
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Israel Arab women break taboo, hit books

Students leave home, flock to universities

Gershon Gorenberg/Jerusalem Post Reporter

THE FIRST TIME a woman from Kafr Kara went to university was in 1980, and the Arab village in Wadi Ara did not take easily to the idea. "When someone sent his daughter to university, people would say: 'Oh, that's not right,' and that kind of thing," says Salwa (not her real name), a 19-year-old Kafr Kara woman who just completed her first year of nursing school at Hebrew University.

According to Salwa, village men didn't want women to know more than they did. Fathers, scared that their daughters might be "dishonoured," had only recently accepted the idea of letting them leave the village for the day to work.

In Kafr Kara and Israel's other towns and neighbourhoods, a quiet change has taken place. Family honour may still be "holy," more important than money or anything else, as Salwa says, but more and more women are going to university. There they learn that they can run their own lives - deciding not only what to wear but even whom to marry and where to live.

But Arab women on campus are also finding that leaving tradition isn't easy. And when they finish their studies, they have little place in Arab society as independent women. Along with their desire for freedom, they acquire an uncertain future.

The number of Israeli Arabs studying at the country's seven universities has been rising quickly in recent years, but the jump has been fastest among Arab women.

Between 1977 and 1981, for example, the number of Arab students enrolled in Israeli universities rose 28 per cent. But the figure for Arab women nearly doubled, from 270 to 525, according to the Central Bureau of Statistics.

More up-to-date figures haven't been released. But the bureau's Hanan Zakal confirms that the number of Arab students has continued to grow, and says "it's reasonable to assume" that the proportion of women among them has also kept climbing.

Israeli Arab women began reaching the universities only in the late 60s, as Arabs born after the establishment of the state finished high school, says Eli Rekhess, a researcher at Tel Aviv University's Dayan Centre. "Christian women blazed the trail," with women from the larger Moslem community coming later, he says. Druse women were the last to join the trend.

SALWA WEARS a blouse with short sleeves, something she says she was "too bashful" to do in her village. In her first year at the university, she has already changed some of her views, she tells a visitor to her dorm room. But she also makes it clear that she hasn't left the village completely.

At high school in Kafr Kara, she says, boys and girls "talked, but there was a line, a certain distance. I wouldn't have let someone in my class hug me or kiss me. Even if he touched my hand, that wasn't accepted."

If a girl had a boyfriend, "it wasn't in the open, and even then there were very few who did, and the whole village jumped on them. It's just not accepted."

On campus, she feels freer. "In the village, I couldn't have walked in the street with a guy, but here I can. I can even go to a movie... I think it's good like this. You get to know the other side."

But even now "I'd never let a guy kiss or hug me or anything like that, or hold my hand."

Practising Islam, she has found, is difficult on campus: "It's hard to pray five times a day. I simply don't have time. Sometimes I'm in class when it's time to pray. Or if I study late it's hard to get up early for prayers. I still do pray occasionally, but in the village I prayed more often," she says, a bit sadly.

But on some religious issues, Salwa says, she is "still strict - the matter of honour, and of keeping my virginity. And not drinking wine or eating pork - those are things that I can't change... I don't let myself say there's not a God. I believe in God."

ARAB STUDENTS are intensely political, and politics are a new experience for women, says an M.A. student in education at Hebrew University, whom we will call Nadya.

Conversations between Jewish and Arab students, Nadya says, "start very quickly to deal with politics... you have to be aware, know what's happening, know how to defend your views."

Taking part in Arab Student Committee elections are campus parties affiliated with the Communist-dominated Democratic Front for Peace and Equality, the Progressive List for Peace, and the radically nationalistic Sons of the Village. Nadya says that "you have to join a party on campus, you have to. Students who are apathetic are put under a lot of pressure to show where they stand."

Nadya compares this to her home town of Nazareth, where "if I wanted to participate in something political, I couldn't do it... Society doesn't accept women being politically involved, as it doesn't accept many other things."

Nadya and other students say that Arab students usually make friends among themselves, though they study with Jews and live in the same dorms. They say that there is a cultural gap between Arabs and "more open" Jews, and social pressure in each group against making friends with the other. Nadya adds: "The Arab student always has the



(David Harris)

thought - 'What does the Jewish student think about me as an Arab?' In my opinion that's the most important factor in relationships at the university."

Nadya believes this is particularly true in Jerusalem, where "Arabs see Jews as conquerors, Jews see Arabs as terrorists. The problems of the city are reflected in the university."

CAMPUS POLITICS make Arab students sharply aware of being Arabs. But for women this poses a subtle conflict, because it is Israeli Jewish society that allows them the kind of freedom they often seek as women.

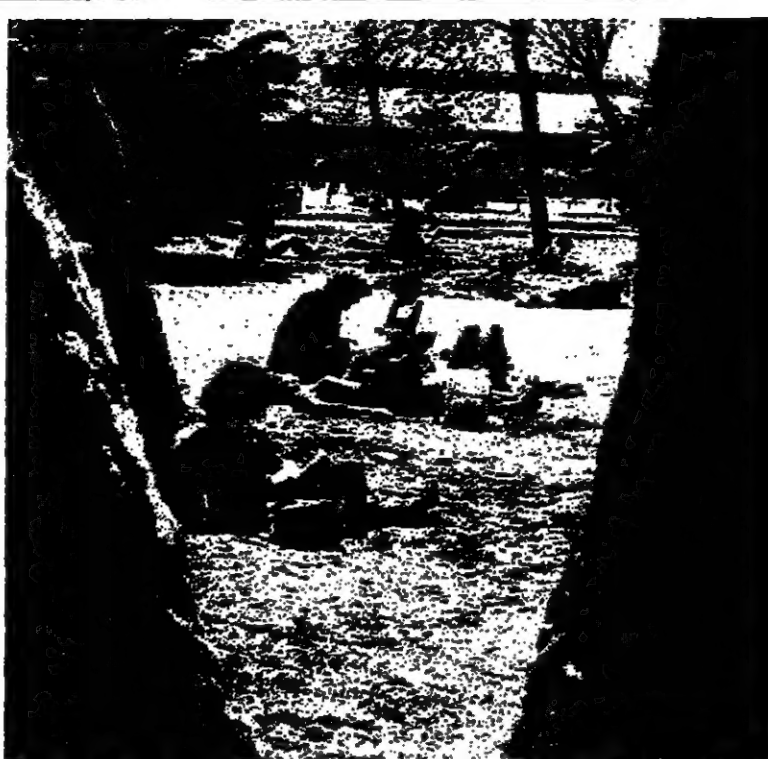
Listen, for example, to Aisha (a pseudonym), a woman from the North who completed her B.A. this year. Speaking to a reporter in a Hebrew U. coffee shop, she says that from the time she came to the university "the real conflict for me was how to leave the traditional framework I was used to and enter the modern world."

At the beginning, "I didn't relate well" to men, she says, laughing softly. "I didn't have any experience. I thought I should relate to them like the boys who were in my class at school - sort of like friends. Or I wouldn't relate to them at all. That was one of my conflicts."

The break with tradition started in her second year at the university. "My whole personality changed. For one thing, I started to work. That seemed like the most important thing if I wanted to be independent from my family. I became more open, made new friends."

Now "I really see myself as an independent woman. I can build my life. As for the relationship of a man and a woman, I can see them living together, cooperating, not one above the other."

Aisha also began to make Jewish friends. "I've started to look at a person as a person," she says, and today "I have Arab friends, but not many."



(Rahamim Israeli)

She intends to stay in Jerusalem after finishing her degree, even though her parents want her to return to her hometown. She has a job at a school in East Jerusalem, and "I've made my life here, my community."

But which Jerusalem, East or West, is hers? At the school where she works, "the people are the same traditional ones I recognize from back home... But since it's just a job, I try not to show my openness there..."

"Once someone asked me there if I'm Moslem or Christian. I said: 'Why do you ask? It doesn't matter to me.' He said, 'Because Christian women are usually more modern and open.' So I said, 'How do you see me?' He said, 'Like that, really modern and open.' So I said, 'I'm Moslem. That rule doesn't affect

me.' But I'm not a revolutionary. I don't let them know what I'm thinking."

In the Jewish city, "I feel much freer and able to do what I want." And when she is asked where she feels she belongs, she says: "I belong to myself - but she suddenly pauses, then goes on: - as a woman and an Arab, who accepts a lot from the Arab tradition, but at the same time I have my own principles."

Another pause, and the zigzagging begins again. "I don't really feel that conflict, because I already know what I want from both places. In the more open place, I can be more open. But I accept many things from my tradition..."

"For example, family ties are very important to me, ties to my parents and what they think - I take that into consideration. Though I'm different

Israel Arab women face many pressures in choosing between their traditional role and going to university.

in many ways, I don't throw that away."

Another example - there's the norm that it's forbidden for a girl to have sex before she gets married. I don't accept that. But I accept that a girl shouldn't have sex before she's 18.

"I'm between two worlds."

AISHA SAYS that an Arab man can go to university, then return home, little changed, to a society he still feels part of. A woman, she says, can't help changing. The point is made even clearer by a conversation with another student.

We will call her Hala. She is 22 years old and must find a husband by the end of next fall semester.

That's when she will finish her B.A. at Haifa University. If she hasn't met the right man by then, her parents will insist that she return to their home in a large village in the Triangle. But the Arab men she has known until now have not accepted her "open-minded" attitude toward sex or her feminism.

Hala is the only woman in her large family to have gotten a higher education. She says only 10 or 12 women from her village are studying in universities.

"I didn't agree to get married like all my sisters did when they finished high school. One sister was only 18 and she was already pregnant. That didn't suit me. I wanted to study, to find the direction I wanted... it caused a fuss at home: 'What's this? Our daughter is going to study?'... But I was really stuck on it. My sisters may have wanted to study, but they didn't stand up for it."

Her sisters had little part in choosing their husbands. "It was the normal thing in the village. Someone sees my sister in the street, hears that

these are good girls, so he comes and asks for her hand. So if my parents think he's good, they come and talk to my sister."

When she speaks of going to university, Hala always uses the words "to leave to study" - to leave the closed life of the village. But she found in her first year away from home that village attitudes had followed her.

"When I was in the village everything was forbidden. 'You're a girl and he's a boy.' I expected that the boys - the girls too, but particularly the boys - when they went to study in an open society [they'd change]. But they lived just like they did in the village. They still thought that for women everything was forbidden. It's forbidden for her to go out with men, and if she goes out at night! They all looked at me and said, 'You're still an Arab woman.'"

There has been some change among Arab students, she says. Several years ago, "it was hard to be boyfriend and girlfriend without keeping it secret. Now there are lots of couples at the university. Everyone knows and people don't talk about them."

The changes, though, have not been enough for Hala. She has made Jewish friends, and only with them does she feel she can speak freely. With Arab women she cannot say that she "goes out with men. Not just one man, that is to say," or that she is "crazy about beer."

She speaks quietly, sometimes pausing as if about to cry. The words "I have a problem" became a refrain. Her parents are "very traditional," but she never mentions the possibility of openly disobeying them. Instead, "Now I keep everything I do a secret from my family."

When she finishes her B.A., she would like to study for a master's degree in journalism. She talks of organizing consciousness-raising groups for Arab women. Yet the key has become finding a husband. "I'm free inside, but I need someone to help me be myself, to work, to be a feminist. I need help to keep studying. Now I can't do everything I want because of my parents. But if I get married and he helps me, no one will talk about me, because I'd be a married woman and my husband would permit it..."

"It's hard for me to find an Arab guy who's right for me, who doesn't see any difference between a man and a woman, who can accept that she has her opinions..."

"I've got a serious problem. I can't be inhibited when I meet someone... I want to have a hand in getting to know someone, not like all the women who just wait for the man. So I meet someone, and maybe the same week I go out with him and all that. After the guy's gone out with me for a few months, he starts thinking, 'I'm not the first one. Certainly she's had a lot of men. She's not a serious woman.'"

Educated Arab men, she says, still want traditional wives. "The doctors who study abroad come back to the village and marry high school girls, whom they can tell what to do, so their wives will be at home and wash dishes."

The Middle East page is edited by Yehuda Liuni.

Syrian-Soviet rift seen over reported coup attempt

Jerry Lewis/Post London Correspondent

SYRIA'S President Hafez Assad was the target of a recent communist plot according to intelligence sources quoted by British newspapers.

Assad is said to have discovered the plans for his overthrow in April and since has imposed a strict crackdown on communists throughout the country. Hundreds are said to have been arrested and at least 16 army

officers executed. "As a result, Syria's relations with the Soviets have cooled and Assad has been in closer touch with the Americans who provided him with an intelligence report confirming the existence of the coup plans. However, observers do not expect a sudden change in allegiance as Syria still relies on Soviet weaponry."

The Communist Party has been reportedly working within the pro-Iranian extremist Hizbollah organization based in Lebanon in its attempts to gain control in Syria. It is also suspected that they were involved with Soviet intelligence officers based in Syria in planning a communist takeover scheduled for after Assad dies.

But a group of "thoheads" were evidently paid to change the plot into an attempt to unseat the Syrian leader and replace him with a communist-led military regime.

ONE OF the reasons for the recent warmer relations between the U.S. and Syria has been Assad's belief that Soviet officers in Lebanon and Syria were involved in the plans. He has had recent meetings with CIA Director William Casey, and with U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations General Vernon Walters as well as Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy.

The first signs of a coup attempt came on April 17th when officers and men in Assad's Alawi sect were attacked at their army bases and in convoys. Up to 200 are believed to

have been killed or injured. Assad immediately ordered his chief of army intelligence Major Ali Duba into action and by the end of the month, checkpoints had been established and manned by army officers. Towns such as Damascus, Aleppo and Homs were closely watched.

Hizbollah's leaders were evidently unaware of the existence of the communist cells, reportedly centred in the Baalbek area and near Tripoli in northern Lebanon.

Links established between the

cells and anti-Assad Moslem fundamentalists in Aleppo, Homs and other centres were discovered and a purge of communists begun. Sources here report that hundreds suspected of having communist connections were detained, including lawyers, politicians and journalists.

Cells were exposed in the ranks of the armed forces, especially in the air force. During the early part of June, at least 16 officers are said to have been executed.

By July, the search for communists extended to the ruling Ba'ath

Party and over 200 were either sacked or detained.

The Soviet Union reacted sharply. Assad's Moscow visit, scheduled for July, was cancelled, and delivery of new aircraft and missiles delayed.

Assad, in turn, reportedly turned down an offer to deploy Eastern European troops as part of the Unifil force in south Lebanon thus depriving the Soviet Union of a foothold in the region. Instead he decided to send more of his own troops to Lebanon to reinforce his own security.

Egyptian farmers caught in food squeeze

Michel Garin/Cairo

EGYPT'S FELLAHIN face a technological challenge to centuries-old farming methods as pressure grows to boost production and close the country's food gap.

Egypt currently imports 60 per cent of its food requirements, totalling 10 million tons a year at a cost of \$4 billion, international experts report.

This makes the task of the fellah, or Egyptian peasant farmer, of achieving high intensity yields with new agricultural technology, increasingly urgent.

"Egyptian agriculture is like the fable of Sisyphus," said one foreign expert: "It is condemned to an unequal battle to feed a constantly expanding population."

One of the major concerns of the government - whose cabinet includes a minister in charge of agriculture and food security - is to find enough food for 50 million people. The population grows by one million every nine or 10 months.

Arable land represents only 3.6 per cent of Egypt's total area and the trade balance in agriculture products, favourable 15 years ago, is today heavily in the red.

Land presently under cultivation, about 2.5 million hectares (6.2 million acres), could be doubled if the Nile were properly exploited, agriculture experts say.



Peasant farmers are trailing in the fight to feed the population.

(AFP telephoto)

Results would also be improved if farmers abandoned traditional irrigation methods for modern drop-by-drop techniques.

YASSEF WALLY, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and food security, says out loud what many people only dare to think: "Israel with a mere million cubic metres of water exports more than a million dollars of agricultural products. Egypt, with 55 times as much water only manages \$200 million worth of food exports. This is inconceivable."

Agricultural production has stagnated over the past 15 years while the population has swelled by 2.7 per cent a year.

At the same time the total area of farmed land has increased minimally and the amount of land plucked back from the desert has been counteracted by erosion and uncontrolled urban expansion.

Egyptian agriculture has also suffered a loss of manpower in recent years as the fellahin moved to work in neighbouring oil rich countries.

Today agricultural development has become a top priority. "Gamal Abdel Nasser (Egypt's second postwar leader) placed the emphasis on industrialization. Anwar Sadat gave preference to oil exploration, President Hosni Mubarak has given absolute priority to agriculture," Wally told Agence France Presse.

He said there were plans by 1992 to cut by a quarter the current 5 per cent level of cereal imports.

The government is also giving aid to young trained farmers willing to use modern agricultural techniques, a programme seen as basic for the transformation of Egyptian agriculture.

FOR THE important cotton cash crop in which it has a marketing monopoly, the government has revised producer prices in a bid to encourage bigger crops.

It provides fertilizer and seed subsidies and plans to build 300,000 greenhouses in a project inspired by Israeli and Jordanian successes.

Considerable headway has been made in mechanization to compensate for the shortage of farm labour and the government is giving financial credits to smallholders, to encourage production.

The minister said the army, which has already played a major role in constructing roads and waterways and has its own farming division, has been given more land for improvement.

One of Egypt's major problems is deficient storage facilities which result in an annual loss of between 10 and 15 per cent of production. Wally said.

But despite the massive effort to boost farming, many experts agree Egypt's number one problem is birth control. (AFP)

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Firm gets to the root of problem

REMOVING hair easily from one's legs and keeping it off for a long time is one of women's most pressing needs - if one judges from the demand for an Israeli-developed device claiming to do this.

Pharmacies and other shops around the country have recently been displaying signs informing would-be purchasers that they have run out of the NIS 94 device, called Soft-and-Easy, Shamir Systems of Nes Ziona, which manufactures it, has increased production from 400 to 1,000 devices per day, and still not met women's demands for it.

Yair Dar, an engineer who worked on it for 10 years, was not surprised by its success. He looked for a way to remove body hair from the root, as in waxing, rather than merely cutting off part of the hair shaft, as in shaving. He developed 25 different versions until the last one - using a metal coil - was perfected.

It takes a month or two until the user gets used to the device and is able to use it without pinching. The hair comes out with the root, and when it grows back, it is soft as it is after wax treatment. Dar and his partner Shimon Yahav paid \$100,000 to register their patent in 32 countries, but they are certain that it was a worthwhile investment.

Helena Rubinstein has contracted to distribute Soft-and-Easy, that is, when it gets enough of them to distribute.

AIDS GETS all the headlines, but another disease that is sexually transmitted and much more common is chlamydia. If left untreated, it can cause male and female infertility, genital and pelvic infections and pneumonia in children born to infected mothers.

Treatment is simple, but diagnosis is complicated as many agents can cause the same symptoms.

Now an Israeli company, Sayvon Diagnostics Ltd. of Tel Aviv, has developed a test for detecting chlamydia antibodies in human blood serum.

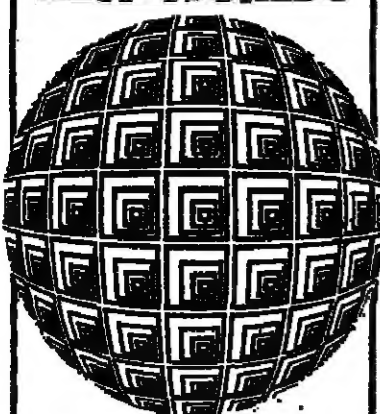
An article in the July issue of the *Israel Economist* reports that Sayvon Diagnostics has commercialized research originally done at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. The detection technique is called indirect immunoperoxidase assay, in which serum is exposed to cells infected with chlamydia. Any antibody in the serum will attach to the germ. If the serum being examined contains no antibody for this particular germ, all the serum components are washed away, thus indicating that the disease is not present.

In the past, chlamydia detection often required a biopsy, in which tissue is surgically removed from the body, since the bacteria are often lodged in human tissues or organs.

THE CHANCES of surviving a head-on collision can be increased by 50 per cent with a new device, a seat-belt tensioner, now being installed in Mercedes-Benz and Saab cars. In the case of a head-on crash, a small charge similar to that in a shotgun shell fires, forcing a piston up a cylinder. This piston pulls a wire attached to the seatbelt take-up reel, snapping the belt tight. According to the August edition of *Popular Science*, tests with instrumented dummies show that the tensioners hold the passengers and driver more tightly in their seats than do regular seatbelts, reducing the chance of injury, or even death.

MICROWAVES cook food in a fraction of regular oven heating; now soundwaves are being used to preserve food.

NEW WORLDS



Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

Newsweek recently reported that researchers in the food-science department of Purdue University hope to perfect the technique for commercial use, producing natural-tasting food that can be reconstituted at a fraction of the cost of other preservation methods, such as freeze drying.

Food is exposed to a dual burst of hot air and low-frequency sound waves. The food particles vibrate and give up their moisture very quickly. The scientists have already dehydrated hard-to-dry foods like tomatoes and orange juice. One could conceivably dry orange juice in the field right after squeezing and save refrigeration costs.

One drawback of the process is that it is very loud; workers will have to be provided with insulating devices to protect their eardrums.

A team at Rutgers University has patented a process for retarding the spoilage of food using an extract of rosemary, long known as a preservative due to its anti-oxidant properties. Rosemary removes the oxygen in food that makes fruits, like apples and avocados, or oils spoil. Since rosemary has a bitter flavor and strong smell, the scientists looked for a way to extract an odorless, anti-oxidant powder from the plant that would not affect the food.

THE ERA of Mary Poppins has apparently returned to the U.S. Thousands of professional chimney sweeps are needed to clean the chimneys of wood-burning stoves that have become highly popular for heating homes instead of expensive gas, electricity and oil.

August West, a company in Maine that developed a high-tech method of cleaning chimneys using new filtering devices, is seeking young people to go into the field. About 44,000 chimney fires broke out in the U.S. last year, killing almost 1,000 people, according to the company. A dirty chimney contains a highly flammable substance called creosote. A spark can ignite the creosote and the entire chimney can catch fire - heating up so much that it can melt the mortar holding the bricks together. Thus chimney sweeps are needed to clean them regularly, to prevent the buildup of the flammable layer. The average charge per chimney cleaning is \$55, and one can make \$1,000 or more per week working full time, says the Maine firm. That makes chimney sweeping many cuts above the low-class image of the sweep as depicted in *Mary Poppins*.

A POPULAR item among would-be smugglers arriving at Israel's ports of entry will probably be the Stick-up, the miniature TV manufactured by the Citizen Watch Company and sold in the U.S. for \$150. The black-and-white model, with a 7-cm. screen, hangs on the wall with Velcro tape, for viewing in the kitchen or bathroom. It can also be used in the back seat of the car. It takes standard C batteries and produces 20 hours of viewing on one set. The TV, which weighs less than half a kilo, is meant to be a permanent wall fixture, rather than a portable set.

Technion plays host to da Vinci

Ya'acov Friedler

NOW THAT the National Science and Technology Museum has been opened in the restored, 70-year-old original Technion building in Haifa, one wonders why nobody thought of it before. Its first exhibition, an exciting show of models, many of them working, built from the designs of the 16th century genius Leonardo da Vinci, is a singularly auspicious beginning.

It all seems so natural, one tends to forget that it took two "obsessed" Technion chemistry professors, Zvi Dori and Yitzhak Oref, to carry out the scheme virtually unaided.

Their labour is now starting to bear fruit. During July, the first full month of the museum's operation, no less than 30,000 people, from all over the country, visited the exhibition. It stays open until the end of October.

The Leonardo exhibit is on loan from the Italian National Science and Technology Museum in Milan. The first time it has been out of Italy, it comprises 30 models, built according to Leonardo's detailed sketches and crafted in wood and iron, the materials available to him nearly 500 years ago. The models cover 18 different subjects of science and technology in addition to the repro-

ductions of his remarkable anatomical drawings, some as clear and precise as today's X-ray photos.

Each model is accompanied by a large reproduction of Leonardo's sketch for it, including the "mirror" (right to left) writing explanations. Professor Dori, who is completely "sold" on Leonardo, said there are two theories to explain these difficult-to-decipher notes: Leonardo was either weary of Church criticism because of his anti-clerical views, or he simply wanted to keep his secrets for himself, an early way of safeguarding patents.

As a matter of fact, he never tried to actually build the machines he planned, "he was interested only in the design, to prove to himself that they were possible," Dori said.

THE LARGEST model is of a "car" to be powered by springs and steered by a wheel at the back which can be moved like the rudder of a boat. Above the car, suspended from the ceiling, is another fairly large model, this time of a "flying boat."

His great interest in water is also displayed in the section showing his plans for a canal from Florence to the sea, complete with a model for a moving bridge to let the ships sail past, and a complete lock to allow ships to navigate the differing water levels which is as modern as any working today.



(Claudio Notkovich)

Da Vinci's model for a flying boat.

He even designed a dredging barge, of reeds and leather, with an opening bottom for the disposal of sediment of the same type still in use today, though the modern barges are of steel. There is also a model of a paddle boat, the first such known, and a model of a double hull for ships, either to give additional security to warships or possibly for a submarine which, says Dori, "he considered so devastating a weapon that he feared even to complete his idea for one."

In the armaments section, an important part of the exhibit, there is a giant crossbow which has a transmis-

sion system to allow the archer to draw it with little effort, as well as various ideas for cannons.

Leonardo, in fact, invented breech loading, and one of his designs calls not for the cannonballs of his time, but shells with stabilizing fins that could be used by modern gunners with no questions asked. He also designed a 12-barrelled "revolving" gun, with breech loading from the centre, which in effect worked like a machine gun.

Then there is a model of a revolving crane with tandem grabs designed to dig his Florence canal and several examples of screws "with

which he was obsessed" according to Dori. These he incorporated into his designs to facilitate transmission and make it easy to hoist guns or even to put up a big obelisk.

Another Leonardo achievement Dori points to with great appreciation is the map of the city of Imola, which for all the world looks like a modern aerial photograph and, says Dori, "is just as exact." The catch is that Leonardo never got a bird's-eye view and drew his map from the exact measurements he obtained using his own wheeled measuring instrument with a counter-revolving gauge of the type still used today.

Finally there is a model of the one project Leonardo actually built, a wheeled carriage-drawn mechanical drum that plays various tunes as it is pulled along, an indication of his love for professions.

While visitors are requested not to touch the models, the museum provides guides who demonstrate how they work, so that even the very young get more than just a peep at odd-looking instruments.

The Milan Museum also sent along an illustrated biography of Leonardo, including the painting side of his activities, made up of a series of large posters, but unfortunately they forgot to send along the promised English version.

The museum is open daily, except Sundays; entrance costs NIS 4 per adult and NIS 3 for children.

Tilt-rotor seen as way to chop into air transport

Gene Gibbon/
Washington

SINCE THE first helicopter clattered aloft half a century ago, leaders of the vertical flight industry have dreamed of designing a chopper that could revolutionize air transportation.

Now, industry officials have their fingers crossed that the dream have become reality in less than 10 years with a craft under development that takes off and lands like a helicopter but flies with the speed and range of an airplane.

Called "the tilt-rotor," the hybrid aircraft is being jointly developed as a military project by two American firms, Bell and Boeing Vertol, in a \$25-\$40 billion programme financed by the U.S. Defence Department.

Despite criticism that the technology is unproven and the costs are

unjustified, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger recently decided to proceed with development of a 24-passenger tilt-rotor designated the V-22 Osprey for the Marine Corps. The military version is expected to go into service in 1991.

And, while many air travellers are wary of helicopters and the mechanically complex, high-cost craft have never really caught on in commercial flight, the developers predict they will crack those barriers as well a few years later.

"Bell feels quite strongly that by 1995 there will be a civilian version of the tilt-rotor," said company spokesman Marty Reich.

The appeal - if development pans out and public resistance can be overcome - would be a solution to big-city airport congestion with a high-speed aircraft that could fly from heliports located within the towns themselves. Studies indicate most air travellers make trips of 800 kilometres or less, well within the tilt-rotor's range.

Flight-testing is to begin in about 18 months. Bell, which has been working on the technology since the mid-1950s, has already built and flown test aircraft to show the feasibility of the concept.

A demonstration flight from New York City to Washington, using a prototype of the same technology, was completed in less than an hour, officials said, matching travel time by jet plan between those two cities.

With a cruising speed of 300 knots, the tilt-rotor can fly twice as fast as a conventional helicopter. It can also fly twice as far on the same amount of fuel.

SOME AIRLINES have already expressed "a certain amount of interest" in tilt-rotors, Reich said, but his firm has not received any orders.

When it comes to the subject of helicopters, the wait-and-see attitude of the airlines is nothing new. The craft to date has never become what its inventors and developers hoped: a replacement for small airplanes on short-haul air taxi routes.

According to industry estimates, there are 20,000 civilian helicopters in use in the U.S. and Europe, but most are used as flying ambulances, to support offshore oil drilling, for construction work and corporate travel.

"When you start looking at commercial passenger service, it just really hasn't caught on," said one official at a firm that makes passenger helicopters.

British Airways, which launched the world's first helicopter passenger service in 1950, is so far the only thriving commercial carrier. Analysts attribute its success to the support service it provides to North Sea oil rigs.

In fact, the experts say, offshore oil drillers probably account for most of the civilian helicopter use worldwide.

The cost of operating the complex flying machines is said to be a prime reason why it is generally not economical to use them for large-scale transport. They require up to 10

hours of maintenance for every hour in flight.

Public resistance also appears to be a problem. "I think a lot of people are still a little wary of flying in them," said one aviation expert who declined to be identified. Jean Howard of the Aviation Industry Association added: "A lot of it is just lack of education. People don't realize how safe they are."

Manufacturers of the tilt-rotor seem confident the latest advance in helicopter technology will overcome the cost problems and safety concerns that have stunted the growth of a helicopter passenger service. By providing financing for four model helicopters, the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration is already preparing for the possibility that they may be right.

One heliport, in Indianapolis, Indiana, is already operating. Two more are under construction in New York and New Orleans. A fourth, in Los Angeles, is in the planning stage. (Reuter)

The many dangers that lurk at places of work

Simson L. Garfinkel

"A FENCE at the top of the cliff is much better than an ambulance at the bottom," quoted Dr. Elihu Richter, a researcher at Hebrew University's Department of Medical Ecology and Industrial Medicine at the School of Public Health at the Hadassah Medical School. Although Richter attributed the remark to Dr. Paul Ruse in his efforts to fight malaria in India, the idea that prevention is better than treatment is just as applicable in the Israeli workplace today.

For the past 11 years Richter has been assessing the exposures and effects of hazardous materials in the Israeli workplace and attempting to pinpoint high-risk groups. Richter's early work in Israel involved studying blood lead levels in workers at lead battery and lead smelter plants.

He found that many workers had received highly toxic exposure from fumes and dust. Lead in the body has been shown to be a risk to the central nervous system and cause IQ impairment in children.

Later studies of silica exposure in the ceramics industry and mercury exposure in the thermometer industry led Richter and his colleagues to the conclusion that toxic exposure was not limited to one industry or workplace. In many cases, said Richter, physicians and labour inspectors underestimated the severity of exposure and effects.

The implications of these early studies may actually have been far worse than was realized at the time. "Our concepts of safe exposures for many agents have [decreased] dramatically in recent years," said Richter. "Take lead: there is now evidence that...so-called background or normal exposure for urban residents in the U.S. are now implicated

in increasing hypertension and IQ impairment in children." For some chemicals, he continued, "there is no such thing as a permissible level of exposure."

Working with Richter in his research are Dr. Jaakov Mazliah and Dr. Steven Barron from the Haifa Medical School, and Dr. Nachman Gruener from the Carmel Hospital in Haifa.

Richter showed a photograph of an agricultural worker in the Galilee. The worker was mixing an organophosphate-based insecticide in a small plastic jug from stock solutions contained in two large metal drums. While performing the task, the worker spilled a significant amount of the potent neuro-toxic agent onto his shoes. "This is an example of a problem which shouldn't exist at all," Richter said.

The spill could be avoided if the pesticide was sold in ready-to-use containers, or if the material came in containers with a built-in closed mix-

ing system - containers designed not to leak or spill.

THE PROBLEM is that many of the processes used today in Israel rely on the worker to "minimize the effects of design mistakes." Engineers should instead design processes to perform "in a complementary and forgiving manner." For example, instead of using glove-boxes designed to isolate an experimenter from the substance he is using, many technicians using hazardous materials in Israeli laboratories are told simply to "be careful." "This is an outdated and backward approach, indicating technological lag," commented Richter.

Assessing worker exposure to hazardous materials is especially difficult because many of the exposures result in impairment to short-term memory and reaction speed, rather than illnesses which are immediately apparent to an outside observer. Working with Dr. Zoli Zlotogorski of Hebrew University's psychology department, Richter is "trying to find out if there are impairments in intelligence, memory, reaction time and perception from the everyday use of organophosphate containing pesticides in agriculture." They are also concerned about the effects of drift of the pesticides to adjacent communities, such as surrounding kibbutzim. The project is part of a 10-nation World Health Organization Europe project monitoring the health of workers exposed to these chemicals.

The current project is of interest, Richter explained, because it is one of the first to examine the risks of "sub-clinical exposures" - that is, exposures that do not cause immediate poisoning - in groups of workers and residents. The conclusions of the study will have important implications for the future uses of these pesticides.

Although risk assessment is becoming popular in Israel today, Richter criticized most current efforts. "Risk assessment in Israel smacks of charlatanism. Most risks have not been properly assessed. A is underestimating the risks to B and then does not share the results of the studies with B. You can't have risk assessment without authentic right-to-know practices." As an example, Richter recalled a 1981 statement by the director-general of the Health Ministry that Israel had no asbestos problem. The statement had been based on incomplete assessments. "We use this as a teaching example in the medical school of how not to assess risks," Richter said.

According to Richter, risk assessment in Israel has been flawed by two key issues. First, the methods used to assess risks have underestimated the dangers. Second, follow-up studies are often insensitive to time lag, so a medical problem which manifests itself years after the exposure is rarely seen by those conduct-

ing the risk assessment study. "In the short term the risk cause-effect relations are missed because the risks are not specific. And with hazards with long-term effects the latent period is not taken into account. It's like looking for grey hair on children in third grade," he said.

THE HAZARDS in Israeli factories today are often made worse by the buildings' ventilation systems. Instead of exhausting vapours outside, many systems circulate toxic fumes throughout the building, Richter said.

Many believe that Israel's new high-tech industries will be free of hazardous materials, but these businesses also have their share. For example, arsenic is used in the manufacture of integrated circuits and a variety of dangerous solvents are used in the production of printed circuit boards. Worker safety was often ignored in the early days of California's Silicon Valley, and "now the chickens are coming home to roost," Richter said.

One of the biggest problems in eliminating hazardous exposures is finding them. In Israel 30-40 per cent of the workforce is in small work establishments, which are not reached by the existing network of health and safety programmes. "Even with all the limitation of these programmes, something is better than nothing," said Richter.

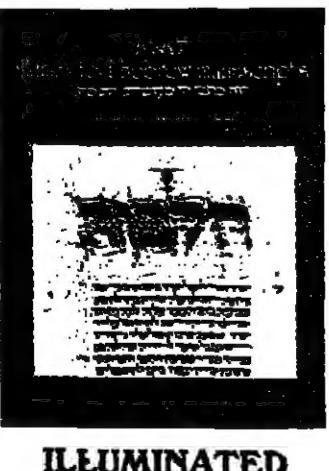
A worker in a small shop can be exposed to substances which are just as toxic as those found in the largest factory. Many industrial cleaners and solvents, for example, have both immediate medical side-effects and are potent carcinogens. In an attempt to reach those workers in small establishments, the Hebrew University researchers, in conjunction with the Histadrut, are planning an "experimental programme to detect and control hazardous exposures in small work places, and to make use of a field station to provide personal first aid and preventive services, such as blood pressure screening and smoking cessation programmes," Richter explained. The pilot programme will monitor approximately 4,000 workers in the Givat Shaul area in Jerusalem.

Although Richter praised the outreach of Kupat Holim's occupational medicine network, he said that it frequently misses exposures at a time and level when effective prevention is possible. The current system more resembles the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff rather than the fence at the top. Israel's existing medical network is "not yet programmed" to realize when a patient's illness is the result of work-related hazardous materials exposure. How can a doctor know if a patient's shortness of breath is the result of dust he inhaled 10 or 15 years ago? The real solution, said Richter, is to design processes and workplaces to limit exposures in the first place.

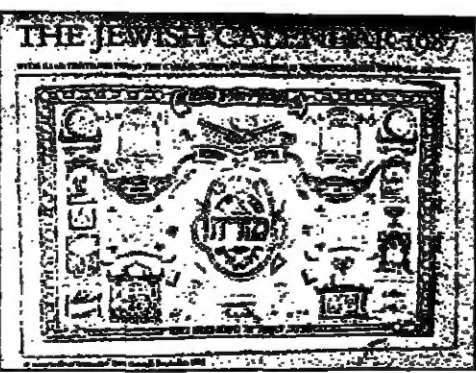
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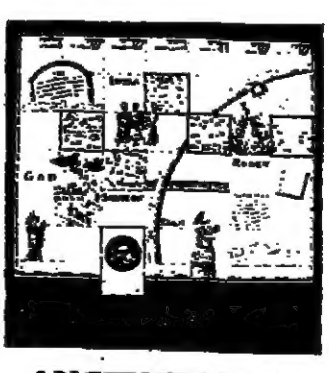
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MARKET PLACE

PINHAS LANDAU

Welcome to Israel SSR

It was with feelings of profound relief, mixed with boundless gratitude, that the hard-working citizens of the People's Republic of Israel heard the glad tidings yesterday. The government, in its infinite wisdom moved to slap down a group of ruthless profiteering monsters, whose free-wheeling activities have long threatened the public well-being. It announced that the Ministry of Industry and Trade was re-imposing price controls on swimming-pools.

The said ministry, led by that well-known pillar of good government and ardent believer in free-market economics, Ariel Sharon, is also going to remove price controls on another batch of goods and services of the sort that dominate everyday life and have important influence on the average family's basket of consumption, as measured by the consumer price index. Brushes and brooms, for instance, will be released from the maw of the bureaucracy, to make their way unaided in the jungle of the free market, without so much as a price inspector to hold their hand.

But, never fear, the watchful eye of Big Brother will be looking over the shoulders of those nasty free-loading shopkeepers, and the wholesalers for that matter. Any attempt at price-gouging, and Ariel's commands will be upon them like an armored thrust, and the rights of the law-abiding citizen will be upheld. That's if the income tax boys do not drive them out of business first; if the VAT people do not fine them out of existence; if they remember to get all the licenses they need from all the ministries and departments and agencies involved in overseeing their various activities. Oh yes, and if there is a demand for their goods and services that justifies their being in business in the first place.

All this was a lot of good news to absorb in one day, and it came hard on the heels of another important economic development in the People's Republic. Shocked by the slaughter of innocent bystanders and passengers on the nation's roads that has reached epidemic proportions, the Ministry of Transport - led by another forceful figure, with a long record of leading campaigns to improve the general welfare, Haim Corfu - has decided to take the bull by the horns. In a dramatic move aimed at getting to the root of the traffic accident plague, Corfu proposed that the 30 per cent purchase tax on factory-installed vehicle air-conditioners be eliminated.

The bull whose horns had been taken turned out to be none other than Industry Minister Sharon, probably to Corfu's surprise. Sharon mercilessly shot down his colleague's suggestion on the grounds that cutting import taxes would hurt local producers of vehicle air-conditioners. Supporting inefficient and unnecessary local industry has always been the primary *raison d'être* of the Industry Ministry, which explains why imports cost so very much, and why many local products are shoddy and inferior. Sharon made this clear in his lucid and cogent rejection of Corfu's idea: "I say no. I have local industry to protect."

As regards the problem of mangled bodies in cars littering the roads up and down the country, Sharon pinned the main blame on "reckless Arab drivers from the West Bank and Gaza Strip." The air-picking of Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin that no Arabs had been responsible for the recent fatalities was brushed aside.

This is the level of policy-making that the hapless inhabitants of the People's Republic have to put up with in the field of government-made economic policy. Even these classic examples of the nonsense on which "elected leaders" waste their time in cabinet and committee are not complete. A brush manufacturer is reportedly taking the Industry Ministry to the High Court of Justice to complain that he has not been allowed a price rise since July 1985. Nobody will cry to read that news; hardly anyone will laugh.

And most adults and children were actually happy to hear that the ministry was going to roll back price rises for swimming and tennis lessons, since they are always happy to have their expense-account on luxuries subsidized by the government, i.e., their taxes. It's a great vote-winning move.

On the other hand, they were quite indifferent to the inanities of the debate on air-conditioners. Why hasn't the Transport Ministry discovered the anomalous tax situation pertaining to the things until now? What about other, more obvious, causes of accidents, such as narrow roads and dangerous driving? Why aren't traffic crimes punished with automatic licence suspensions or disqualifications?

Life in the People's Republic has trained them to think that way. That's the whole problem.

CORRECTION

In a story appearing in the August 8 *Jerusalem Post*, the total sum being raised by Ormat Turbines Ltd. was incorrectly given. The company has arranged an \$85 million financing package, of which \$50m. consists of loans.

Nissim vows to extend supervision till March

Price controls lifted on dozens of goods

By AVI TEMKIN

Post Economic Reporter

Just a day after Finance Minister Moshe Nissim promised Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar that he would seek a cabinet extension of price controls, the Industry and Trade Ministry announced supervision would immediately be ended on dozens of goods and services.

A spokesman for the Treasury said that the partial lift of price controls was done with Nissim's consent and agreement. He added that the lift had been in the pipeline long before the talks between Nissim and Kessar had started. Nissim told Kessar that he would ask the cabinet to extend until March the Economic Stabilization Law, the mechanism for enforcing price controls that is due to expire in December.

Among the goods for which price controls will be abandoned are furniture upholstery material, brooms, scales, brushes, measuring tapes, spare parts for durable goods, non-chemical fertilizers, aids for the handicapped, mineral water, popcorn and liver pâté. The controls were lifted also on the prices of computer programming for planning purposes, cultural and entertain-



Moshe Nissim (Aliza Auerbach)



Yisrael Kessar

ment services by artists, tailoring, shoemaking and industrial maintenance. The controls are to be lifted as of today.

At the same time, Industry Minister Ariel Sharon yesterday ordered controls reimposed on the prices of entrance tickets to public swimming pools and tennis courts. The controls were lifted by the Industry Ministry on July 7, just at the beginning of the season.

The ministry said pool owners took advantage of the freedom to raise prices excessively. The ministry said that in addition to the reinforcement of the controls it was limiting the rise in these prices to 25 per cent over their level in July 1985.

Sharon said yesterday that he would continue with his policy of lifting price controls since a long freeze would jeopardize local industries. But he said his ministry would

continue monitoring developments in sectors where supervision has been ended.

Meanwhile, the Manufacturers Association strongly criticized the agreement reached by Kessar and Nissim on Monday. A spokesman for the industrialists said yesterday that Nissim and Kessar had no right to agree on an extension of the price freeze as a condition for the signature of a wage accord for the public sector. "The Histadrut took prices as hostages of the wages accord," he added.

In a related development Housing Minister David Levy lashed out against plans to freeze 75 per cent of all government contracts, until Nissim's proposed NIS 475 million cut is implemented. Levy said he would oppose the proposal to freeze contracts "with all his strength."

In a meeting with the heads of private building companies to discuss the contract freeze, Levy blamed similar moves by the government in 1984 and 1985 for injuring the construction sector. Levy said such freezes mainly affect building companies and that a further freeze would deal a mortal blow to a large number of companies.

WORLD BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Gold, platinum prices drop back

ZURICH (Reuters). - Gold and platinum slipped back yesterday after soaring on world markets Monday, but continued nervousness about the possibility of disruptions to supplies from South Africa could prompt a new rally, traders said.

"The market is trying to find its balance," an economist with a major Swiss bank said. "It's in a period of consolidation after reaching extremely high levels rather quickly."

Gold closed at \$385 an ounce in Zurich, well down on Monday's \$399 peak but still some \$18 above last Friday's levels.

In London, the afternoon fix was \$384, compared with Monday's two-year high of \$394.50, and it closed at \$384.50.

Platinum, which led the rally in precious metals, dipped to \$537 an ounce at the close in Zurich after peaking at \$565 Monday. This compared with last Friday's price of just over \$500.

Dealers in London said gold trading was much quieter than Monday, and one commented: "A little more reason has entered the gold market."

EGYPT RAISED OIL PRICES for the first time this year, and an official said a further rise was expected at the end of August.

An Egypt General Petroleum Corp. official told Reuters the cost of Egypt's benchmark Suez blend would rise \$3.40 dollars per barrel from August 1 to 20. Prices for the last 10 days of August were expected to rise, along with world market prices, he added.

SPAIN AND GREECE are complaining that a draft settlement between Washington and the European Community on a long-running transatlantic trade dispute may harm their exports of citrus fruits and other goods. But EC officials do not believe the Spanish and Greek reservations will hold up the removal of counter-restrictions by the two sides on European pasta and American lemons and walnuts.

Spain, in particular, felt that concessions made to American exporters of almonds, sweet oranges, olives and olive oil could harm the interests of its own producers.

JAPANESE AUTO MAKERS have agreed to reduce their exports to the European Community, starting this month, to keep the annual growth of the shipments down to 10 per cent, the *Mainichi Shimbun* daily reported in Tokyo yesterday.

The agreement, between the car makers and the EC, will be communicated to the EC at a trade summit in September, the newspaper said.

TOKYO STOCKS SHOT UP, as the widely followed Nikkei Stock Average notched up its second steepest rise ever. The advance reflected overnight gains on Wall Street and prospects of lower interest rates.

The index jumped 315.58 to close at 1794.64. Turnover on the major board totalled about 830.2 million shares, against 399 million Monday.

LIBYA IS READY TO SELL its 15.2 per cent stake in Fiat back to the Italian auto maker's chairman, Giovanni Agnelli and his family.

"If the Agnelli family is ready to buy our Fiat shares at a price fixed by us, we would be prepared to leave, but the truth is that nobody has ever come to us with a concrete offer," Mohammed Shetawi Naas said in an interview with an Italian press agency. "I would like to know who is able to pay the \$2.8 billion to buy our shares."

Relations between Fiat and Lafico have become tense because of the U.S. Defence Department's unwillingness to order Fiat-Alis tractors due to the strong Libyan stake in the company. Naas later denied making the statement.

BRAZIL'S DEBT REPAYMENTS will be subject to a ceiling of \$5 billion a year, the Sao Paulo newspaper *Jornal do Brasil* reported Friday. Brazil's annual debt-servicing bill comes to about \$12.4b. on a total debt of \$105b.

Gold surge will aid S. African economy

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters). - South Africa will continue to meet its foreign debt commitments and strong gold prices will boost its whole economy, Reserve Bank Governor Gerhard de Kock said yesterday.

His remarks, in a telephone interview with Reuters, followed renewed speculation that new international sanctions, planned by some Commonwealth countries and favoured by the U.S. Congress, might encourage Pretoria to delay debt repayments.

De Kock said sustained strong gold prices would be a shot in the arm for the recession-hit economy, rocked by over two years of political

violence. "The gold price doesn't have to stay at \$395.... If it stays around the \$380 level that would be tonic for the whole South African economy," de Kock said.

It would boost exports and tax receipts, increase South Africa's current account surplus and tend to strengthen the weak rand, he said.

At present exchange rates, each \$1 rise in the gold price increases the value of South Africa's gold output by some \$21 million over a full year, de Kock said. "At \$300 per ounce, at the present exchange rate, the value of gold output is \$6.2 billion. At \$400, it would be \$8.3b." per year, so there's quite a difference," he said.

De Kock said South Africa was meeting its foreign debt repayments out of its current account surplus. Gross gold and foreign exchange reserves had not fallen at all in the last three months despite debt repayments, he said.

Platinum supplies to the West are "very unlikely" to be cut by South Africa in a counter-move to tough economic sanctions being considered in Europe and the U.S., a leading precious metals analyst said yesterday.

Analyst Johannes de Kock of Johannesburg's George Haysamer brokers was reacting to rumours reported by the *Wall Street Journal* that platinum supplies were in jeopardy.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices:

General Share Index	111.49 -1.22%
Non-Bank Index	120.48 -1.22%
Arrangement	100.65 -1.18%
Insurance	155.69 -0.34%
Commerce, Services	161.88 -1.17%
Real Estate	170.60 -1.36%
Industrial	124.25 -1.47%
Textiles	120.76 -0.14%
Metals	92.24 -0.88%
Chemicals	130.46 -1.36%
Industrial Invest.	112.09 -3.35%
Investment Corp.	120.57 -1.60%
General Bond Index	108.41 -0.25%
Index-linked Bonds	110.84 -0.21%
Index-linked	112.63 -0.11%
Partially-linked	108.68 -0.30%
Dollar-linked Bonds	94.38 -0.47%
Short-term 0-2 yrs	108.52 -0.17%
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	108.88 -0.30%
Long-term 5+ yrs	104.32 -0.23%

Turnovers:

Shares - total	NIS 7,506,900
Arrangement	NIS 2,744,100
Non-Bank	NIS 4,762,800
Bonds - total	NIS 9,030,000
Index-linked	NIS 5,959,300
Dollar-linked	NIS 3,079,300
Treasury Bills	NIS 8,853,700

Share Movements:

Advances of which 5%+	77 (110)
Declines	208 (154)
Unchanged	22 (19)
of which 5%+	1 (2)
"sellers only"	1 (2)
Unchanged	83 (108)
Trading Halt	42 (47)

Bond Market Trends:

Index-linked	Stable/falls to 0.5%
3% fully-linked	Stable/falls to 0.5%

4.25% fully-linked	Stable/falls to 0.5%
80% linked	Falls to 0.5%
Double-linked	Falls to 0.5%
Dollar-linked:	Slight rises
Admon	Falls to 2%
Rimon	Slight rises
Gilboa	Stable/falls to 3%
For Curr. denominated Treasury Bills (annual yield)	18.40-19.30%

Arrangement yields:

IBB ord.	16.86%
Union 0.1	16.42%
Discount A	16.84%
Mizrahi r.	16.88%
Hapoelim r.	16.70%
General A	16.30%
Leumi stock	16.51%
Fin. Trade 1	trading halt

SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

Name Price Volume % 100NIS change

Meir Ezra	4800	32	-4.1
Supersol 2	5420	228	-3.1
Delek r	3050	1275	-2.8
Lightstar	16800	97	+9.9
Cold Storage	2180	46	-
Dan Hotels	3440	88	-
Yarden Hotel	3050	524	-1.6
Hilton 1	13810	8	-
Team 1	1800	289	-

Commercial Banks

(not part of "arrangement")			
Maritime 1	1200	1233	+0.2
General non-arr.	25480	58	-0.1
First Int'l	3585	1443	-2.3
IBI	4080	2090	-2.4

Commercial Banks

(part of "arrangement")			
IDB	76800	659	-1.4
Union 0.1	57250	118	+0.1
Discount	97810	197	+0.0
Mizrahi	3140	1423	-2.0
Hapoelim r.	52000	1275	-1.5
General A	133900	14	-0.4
Leumi 0.1	33160	1208	-1.2
Fin. Trade	no trading		

Mortgage Banks

Leumi Mort. r.	5044	502	-4.1
Dev. Mort.	1680	2270	+2.2
Mizrahi r.	2115	182	-1.2
Tefahot r.	13500	45	+2.7
Merav r.	4989	94	-2.1

Financial Institutions

Agrie C	4587	98	+2.3
Ind. Dev. DD	70925	b.o.2	+5.0
Cial Leasing 0.1	12177	239	-10.0

Insurance

Ararat 0.1 r.	855	225	-3.4
Measur r.	488	18053	-3.9
Phoenix 0.1	690	620	-
Hamishmer	6300	-	-1.6
Menorah 1	2682	633	+10.0
Sela	4140	61	-
Zion Hold. 1	8400	-	-

Trade & Services

Meir Ezra	4800	32	-4.1
Supersol 2	5420	228	-3.1
Delek r	3050	1275	-2.8
Lightstar	16800	97	+9.9
Cold Storage	2180	46	-
Dan Hotels	3440	88	-
Yarden Hotel	3050	524	-1.6
Hilton 1	13810	8	-
Team 1	1800	289	-

Real Estate, Building and Agriculture

Azornit	555	3633	-2.4
Elion	314	14713	-3.1
Africa Int. 0.1	34300	56	-2.1
Dankiner	3900	200	-4.9
Prop. & Bldg.	2680	1386	-1.5
Yarden 0.1	4540	1016	-1.5
ILDC r	62400	202	-1.6
Rassco r	9600	230	-
Mehadrin	6780	150	-3.1
Mehadrin	1090	1205	-1.9

Industrials

Dubak b	3435	207	-0.9
Pri-Ze 1	1860	595	-3.2
Sunfrost	7989	150	-0.8
Elita	13650	72	-1.1
Adger	798	600	-2.7
Argaman r	12820	48	-0.8
Delta G 1	4180	378	-2.0
Maquette 1	10950	18	+0.5
Polgar	3190	601	-1.8
Schoellerma	11250	15	-4.7
Rogovin	2977	1198	-1.8
Urdan 0.1 r	5900	73	-2.0
Is. Can Co. 1	1352	7036	-0.3
Zion Cables	2635	1775	+3.0
Pecker Steel	7570	125	-0.7
Elbit	384000	8	-0.3

Elron

Art	300000	31	-0.8
Cial Electronics	2025	188	-1.0
Electronics 1	2025	913	-4.0
T.A.T. 1	3700	308	-1.6
Adstein 1	1645	200	-2.1
Adstein 5	18350	58	-3.2
Alliance	2950	1279	+10.0
Dexter	3251	75	+0.0
Partiflora	4900	79	-8.0
Heifa Chem.	521	6064	-
Teva r	55200	172	-2.7
Dead Sea r	16090	1818	-0.9
Petrochem.	568	15579	-3.1
Neda Chem.	3255	-	-
Frutrom	12900	199	-
Hedera Paper	198800	36	-1.4
Central Trade	6420	380	-5.2
Koor p	5250000	0	+4.0
Cial Inds.	1215	8134	-3.2

Investment Companies

IDB Dev. r	3539	909	-0.0
Elion	2833	2282	-0.8
Art 1	no trading		
Galelet	1270	-	-
Israel Corp. 1	7800	414	+0.1
Wolfson 1 r	112000	1.8	-2.6
Hapoelim Inv.	5090	589	-
Leumi Invest.	no trading		
Discount Invest.	2170	2182	-
Mizrahi Invest.	15390	25	-5.0
Cial 10	748	2635	-3.9
Lendora 0.1	8390	195	-
Pama 0.1	9400	86	-2.8

Oil Exploration

Pez Oil Expl.	12500	60	-3.8
J.O.E.L.	no trading		

Abbreviations:

s.o. sellers only	b. buyers
b.o. buyers only	r. registered

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Budget cuts again

THE RENEWED cabinet debate on budget cuts should be seen from two perspectives.

In the first place, it has become necessary mainly because of the government's failure to push through the measures it agreed on earlier this year—in other words, its failure to impose discipline on the enormous Knesset majority it supposedly commands, and which was one of the main justifications for the existence of a coalition of the main parties. Had the tax increases and subsidy cuts originally built into the 1986/7 budget proposal actually been legislated and implemented—however questionable as a solution they may have been—the cabinet would not now have to seek alternatives to them.

It is also true that the aid packages to various sectors that the government proposed several months ago will lead to a larger deficit than was planned, and that these should, therefore, be covered somehow, either by equivalent cuts in other spending items, or by cost increases for services such as those provided by Kupat Holim.

Secondly, the amount of money under discussion is "only" NIS 475 million, a large absolute amount perhaps, but not as a proportion of a total budget in excess of NIS 32 billion. In other words, the government is engaged in snipping, rather than slashing.

This is important, because the overwhelming consensus of economic opinion, in academic, financial and industrial circles, and of both Israeli and foreign experts, is that there will be no significant growth in the Israeli economy until the government makes major cuts in its spending, thereby releasing resources for the private sector and opening up the possibility of more output, more jobs and a generally sounder economic structure. Very few people today believe that growth can be generated by more government spending. The purpose of budget cuts is, therefore, to reallocate resources to more productive uses, not to create recessionary conditions as an end in themselves.

By extension the usual outcome of these cabinet debates, namely a compromise involving a few token cuts here and there with the main "savings" coming from new or higher taxes, levies and imposts, should be firmly resisted by the finance minister, if and when such a path is proposed. The economy has long passed the point of diminishing returns in tax receipts: higher taxes can only be counter-productive.

Furthermore, the government should be bold enough to state plainly that its announced aims of capital market reform, meaning less government borrowing, and tax reform, meaning less government revenue, can only be achieved by major, multi-year programmes that will reduce the level of government spending—not across the board, but selectively. That, in turn, will force a debate on a much more fundamental topic: where the spending reductions can in fact be made.

Were that to happen, the various lobbyists now muttering about the impossibility of cutting spending in their patch, be it welfare, education, health or defence, would raise their volume to a much higher pitch, threatening the nation with imminent disaster if their particular sacred cow was attacked.

Their noise, however, would not be sufficient to drown out the small, still voice asking the most basic question of all. If nothing can be touched, are we then doomed to stagnate for ever, with yereda booming and aliya an almost non-existent phenomenon? If they can't answer that, then they will simply have to think again.

Carnage on the roads

NEVER BEFORE have we had such a disastrous period of deaths due to traffic accidents, many of them horrifying in their nature, as we have had in the last few weeks. People concerned with road safety were saying in June that there had been a slight improvement in the position: in 1985, there had been fewer accidents than in the previous year. Then came July and August, and the whole country is up in arms, demanding that "something be done" to stop the carnage on the roads.

Some valuable suggestions were made in an article by MK Uriel Lynn, chairman of the Knesset Sub-Committee for Road Safety, in yesterday's *Jerusalem Post*. Almost everyone will endorse his proposal that wearing safety belts should be made compulsory in cities as well as outside them. The present law exempts urban travellers from observing this elementary precaution.

Although he mistakenly assumes that there is a necessary connection between revenue from taxes on motorists and government spending on road maintenance and building new roads, Mr. Lynn is right to point out that such spending has been reduced to a level so low that it is way beneath the danger point. Since the Ministry of Transport is now called upon to reduce its budget, this means it will have to reorder its internal priorities by paying greater attention to the state of the country's roads.

A point Mr. Lynn ignores is that, contrary to common belief, drunken driving may now represent a real problem even in Israel. This is the contention of some knowledgeable doctors, who complain of police indifference to this relatively new phenomenon.

The main need, however, as we have urged before, is for a comprehensive and detailed scientific study of road accidents. In other advanced countries, every serious road accident is carefully tabulated, and its cause analysed. The cost is minimal, yet without such basic information it is virtually impossible to determine the etiology of the particularly Israeli variant of the disease, and to prescribe reasonable remedies.

POSTSCRIPTS

PS. SCHOOLBOYS who for a prank painted swastikas on their collars when they played a rugby match recently against a Jewish school in Johannesburg were made to watch a harrowing film on the Holocaust for punishment.

Two of the boys involved in the incident later left the school voluntarily, and letters of apology were sent to the Jewish boys concerned and to their school.

The headmaster of the Sir John Adamson School in Johannesburg, Simon Hankey, said the pupils had been given a "punishment to fit the crime" they committed against the team from the King David School.

Don Krausz, who lost 30 members of his family during the Nazi tyranny, described his nightmares in the Westerbork concentration camp in

the Netherlands and in the Ravensbrück and Sachsenhausen camps in Germany.

Krausz said: "The boys were very subdued and looked very ashamed. I don't think they had a definite idea about the Holocaust. I think it was more of a prank aimed at getting the goat of the Jewish team."

PS. A FRENCH teenager who took his pet rat on holiday with him to London in contravention of British anti-rabies laws was fined £150 recently.

The teenager was arrested the day after his arrival as he strolled along the fashionable Kings Road in Chelsea with his black and white rat, named Toilette, perched on his shoulder.

The rat was destroyed along with the helmet of the police officer who took charge of the offending rodent, the court heard.

A lawyer representing the French boy said the teen was very shocked by the death of his pet, which he always took on holiday with him.

What's the point of Tisha Be'Av?

WITH THE STATE of Israel now in its 38th year, and with Jerusalem into its 20th year as the reunited, flourishing capital of the Jewish state, isn't it time to abolish the mourning and fasting of Tisha Be'Av?

The Jewish religious authorities in Jerusalem were asked a similar question 2,504 years ago. Two years earlier, the reconstruction of the Temple was begun by Ezra and Nehemiah, the leaders of the 42,360 Jews (out of the estimated 6 million scattered throughout the "Babylonian Exile") who answered the invitation of Cyrus King of Persia to return to Judea to re-establish autonomous Jewish communal life here and rebuild the Temple.

The questioners were the Diaspora leadership, or, according to another interpretation, the communal leaders in other parts of Judea. They wanted to know (we are told in the book of Zechariah, chapter 7) whether, now that Jerusalem had been restored to the Jews and

the Temple rebuilt, there was still a need to observe the mourning and abstinence "in the fifth month" (Av). This was one of four fast days instituted following various events connected with the destruction of Solomon's Temple by the Babylonians in 586 BCE. The other three, as they are referred to in Zechariah, are "the fast of the fourth month" (Shiva-assar BeTammuz), "... of the seventh month" (the Fast of Gedaliahu, on the third day of Tishrei), and "... of the tenth month" (Assara Betevet).

The question is referred to the Prophet Zechariah. His reply is really understood only by inference, best drawn when the reply is read in the context of the not-obviously-connected passages that follow, and with the help of the commentaries. The query, Zechariah's reply, and the commentaries are all, each in its way, relevant to our day. First let us see what the commentators say about the query.

Rabbi David Kimhi ("Radak."

Moshe Kohn

1160-1235) says that the questioners asked their question because they were "of little faith." They did not believe the Temple would be completed, because of the harassment of the enemies of the Jews, and therefore they had no desire to return home from Babylonia. According to Kimhi, apparently, the questioners were eager to be told: "Yes, the mourning remains in full force; there is no relief, let alone Redemption."

Don Isaac Abravanel (1437-1508) gives seven details of that lack of faith. I shall mention the first three: Those Jews did not believe that the *Shechina* (Divine Presence) would dwell in the Second Temple as it had in the first. Secondly, the questioners did not think the Jews of Judea would prevail against their enemies or could rely on the continued support of the Persians. Thirdly, they

had decided that the time of the Ingathering of the Exiles had not come because—note the self-fulfilling prophecy—the bulk of the 6 million Jews scattered throughout Mesopotamia, the Persian Empire, and the Mediterranean Basin had not responded to Cyrus's call.

Zechariah's reply, spoken in God's name, opens with an ironical observation about fasting: "Say to all the common folk (*am haaretz*) and to the priests: When you fasted and lamented in the fifth and seventh months, was it for Me you fasted? And when you eat and drink—is it not you who do the eating and do the drinking?"

The Prophet goes on to imply that only after the Jews have mended their ethical ways will the Redemption come: "Speak the truth to each other, render true and perfect justice... do not scheme evil against each other, and do not love perjury—because I hate all that, says God. If the people act accordingly, then,

it is implied, "The fast of the fourth month, the fast of the fifth month, and the fast of the seventh month, and the fast of the tenth month shall become occasions for joy and gladness, happy festivals; but you must love honesty and integrity."

Maimonides's commentary on Zechariah 7 and 8 also has relevance for us. He writes (as quoted in "National Mourning," a two-part article by Rabbi Zev Gotthold in the *Kislev* and *Tevet* 5718 (1957-58) issues of *Lagat Lagolah* magazine) that those four fast days "are not primarily days of weeping over the vicissitudes of the past, but days of introspection and self-evaluation intended to spur us to mend our ways. They are meant to remind us what our forefathers and we ourselves did to bring those vicissitudes upon us and to move us to return to the ideals and way of life outlined by Zechariah."

The writer is Jewish affairs editor of The Jerusalem Post.

Some prefer to give it a new meaning

I SHALL be fasting this week from sundown Wednesday until sundown Thursday. But this year, more than ever before, I feel silly mourning over the destruction of Jerusalem. I really do not know what to do when it comes time to listen to and recite for myself the classical laments for the fast of Tisha Be'Av. Much of what we say about Jerusalem in the synagogue is just not true any more.

It is obvious to anyone and everyone that Jerusalem does not lie in ruins. On the contrary, this is my fourth extended visit to Jerusalem in the last seven years. Over the last seven years I have watched as buildings spread out from the centre of town to the new neighbourhoods.

Now Jerusalem sprawls across the hills of Judea, south and north from Gilo to Ramot and beyond. On the ninth day of Av this year the observant Jews of Jerusalem will congregate in synagogues throughout the city to mourn and lament. What they say inside these halls will not reflect the reality immediately outside them.

And so this year I have resolved to add a few silent paragraphs to my prayers. Then when I leave the synagogue and step out into the rebuilt city of our people, I will feel that I have been candid in my meditations and forthright in my worship. I shall say something like this:

"Jerusalem is not desolate. It stands glorious above our Land. Our capital looks down on the miracle of the modern state of our people, rebuilt by the sweat and labour of our brethren and sisters. A thousand settlements testify to our return and we are homeless no more."

"The inhabitants of Jerusalem are not homeless. Beautiful buildings abound, apartments, condominiums, villas, large and small. Hotels and hostels, old and new. Whosoever wishes may come and live here. Whosoever is hungry shall find sustenance here."

"Enemies do not govern our land. The Knesset, the site of our self-government, stands at the centre of our new metropolis, a vibrant testimony to our freedom. Independent

Tzvee Zahavy

and sovereign, we struggle with each other and with the states of the world, and somehow we manage to live in harmony among ourselves, and to survive in the swirling community of nations.

"Yes, the Temple was destroyed. But we have built other edifices in its stead. Long ago, in another age, our national centre was taken from us by forces we could not resist. But now we have built new structures where we symbolize and express our spirit, our minds and our creative energies, and most of all, our freedom."

"A great synagogue and many more stand in our capital. They serve as the many beating hearts of our spiritual organs. In dozens of yeshivot, teachers build the religious minds of our youth. Schools abound. When school is in session, wherever you turn there are children on their way to classes from kindergartens to high schools, soaking up the know-

ledge of our world.

"A great Hebrew University answers to the essence of our wider educational appetites, in the capital of our nation. In its laboratories, classrooms and libraries, students try to unravel the mysteries of nature and society and strive to construct a new and better order."

"The Israel Museum, the Bezalel School, the Jerusalem Theatre and other institutions small and large, cater to our cultural needs. In Jerusalem we display our past and our present. We sing and dance and we mourn no more. We paint and draw and sculpt and adorn the urban hub of our people, the crown of our land."

"As we watch, day-by-day, luxury hotels go up and up. Lush green gardens bloom before us. We repose in parks and swimming pools. We find our needs in supermarkets, bakeries and department stores. And we indulge our extravagances in shops and markets, elegant restaurants and offbeat cafes."

"The city of Jerusalem has been rebuilt. Still, the work is never done."

And the struggle will not end. But our city is not desolate. How can we mourn? We must, yes, we are obliged, indeed, it is the highest duty, for us to celebrate. For with God's help, but in accordance with our own will and with our own hands, we have raised Jerusalem beyond its highest heights. Never before in all of our history has this city attained such glory."

And so that is what I shall add as I conclude my lamentations on Tisha Be'Av this year. I shall be cheerful this year, and I will not mourn. But I shall do so silently because this is my own private devotion. Will others join me?

Tzvee Zahavy is chairman of the Department of Ancient Near Eastern and Jewish Studies at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. He was ordained at Yeshiva University and has a PhD in religious studies from Brown University. He is the author of many books and articles on Judaism in the first five centuries CE.

READERS' LETTERS

OUTRAGEOUS IMPLICATION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I read with shock and anger the arguments put forth by spokesmen of Shas and Aguda regarding the equalization of benefits favouring demobilized soldiers and yeshiva students (July 18). I was particularly incensed by the question of MK Avraham Shapira as to whether yeshiva students would be "denied food" if rationing were ever to return. That is certainly a suggestion which was never made.

As one who lived through the siege of Jerusalem from the first to the last day, I well remember the austerity and rationing which came in its wake and stayed with us for years. Babies and small children, expectant mothers and sick people could obtain pitifully minuscule extra rations only after tedious, harassing commuting between their physician, the department of health, local food control and finally the long queue waiting to receive the additional egg or pint of milk. I still feel the wrath and frustration that gripped us all when an important-looking rabbi pushed his way forcefully through the crowd to receive his "due" for this or that yeshiva.

To this day, almost 40 years later, I am upset by the vision of our ordinary humans being unceremoniously and rudely pushed aside for the benefit of young people, who had done precious little for the creation of the state whose fruits they now claim. It is nothing short of cynicism to pretend that yeshiva students have ever been anything but over-favoured.

Yael Meroz
Jerusalem.

MOSLEM HOLIDAYS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — Granted that most Israelis know little and care less about Islamic theology and tradition, but really, how could Yosef Goell write, after years of covering Middle Eastern affairs in The Jerusalem Post: "The feast of Id el Adha which celebrates the end of the Muharram month of fasting" ("Split personalities" — August 1).

Id el Adha is the feast which is held at the end of the pilgrimage to Mecca (Hajj) and begins on the 10th of the month of Dhu el Hija. Ramadan is the month of fasting (not Muharram) and the feast at its end is called Id el Fitr.

Kibbutz Hatzor.

Elana Ron is absolutely right and the sub-editor responsible for the mistake apologizes abjectly. — Ed. J.P.

FRENCH JEWISH CHILDREN

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — The Organization for the Protection of Jewish Children would like to follow up on what has become of the children who were in one of our 20 homes in France during the past 40 years.

Our former wards are requested to write to us at 10 rue Theodule Ribot, Paris 75017, including full name and former name, place and date of birth, present address and other pertinent information.

JOSEF GRUNNER
Ouvre de Protection
des Enfants Juifs
Paris.

VALUABLE ART COLLECTION RELEGATED

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — My uncle, the late Professor Bernard Chapira of the Sorbonne University, was born in Safad, where his family had lived for four generations. He was a private art collector in Paris in the early 1920's and his large collection includes French paintings of the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th century. The 20th century French paintings are mostly from the Jewish School. There are also works of importance from the Byzantine, Italian, Spanish, Renaissance, Flemish, Dutch and English periods.

Professor Chapira bequeathed his art collection to the Municipality of Safad in memory of his only son, Chaim Vidal, who died in a Nazi concentration camp at the age of 19. The art collection was exhibited at the Glicenstein Museum, a Safad municipal museum, from the summer of 1970 through 1984. The Glicenstein Museum was a fine arts museum dedicated to preserving the works of the Chapira collection and the works of Jewish artists such as Glicenstein, Herzberg, Kikoin, Al Hirschfeld and Gottlieb.

Since 1984, there has been a complete change at the Glicenstein Museum, which has become an exhibition hall (under another name), showing none of the Chapira collection nor the above mentioned works. The Chapira collection and Jewish

artists' paintings are now in storage and neglected.

My uncle died in 1967. His one consolation was his testament giving his art collection to the city of Safad in memory of his son Vidal. The family members and others feel a gross injustice has been committed by the Safad Municipality which has not lived up to the testament contract. An alternative location should be found for my uncle's valuable collection.

SELMA PERLMAN
Safad (Rego Park, New York).

ENCOURAGING ALIYA

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — Regarding your reports on efforts to encourage South African and Western aliya in general, I believe fancy programmes are futile. What is needed to bring and retain the many people who want to settle in the land of their forefathers is simple: a hefty dose of free enterprise. The opportunity to do business without confiscatory taxes or oppressive regulations would be an incentive to investment which would create productive jobs and actually raise collected tax revenues.

Give people the chance to make a decent living and they will come here.

DEVORA CHANOKH
Efrat.

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M. KAPLAN
Herzliya.



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